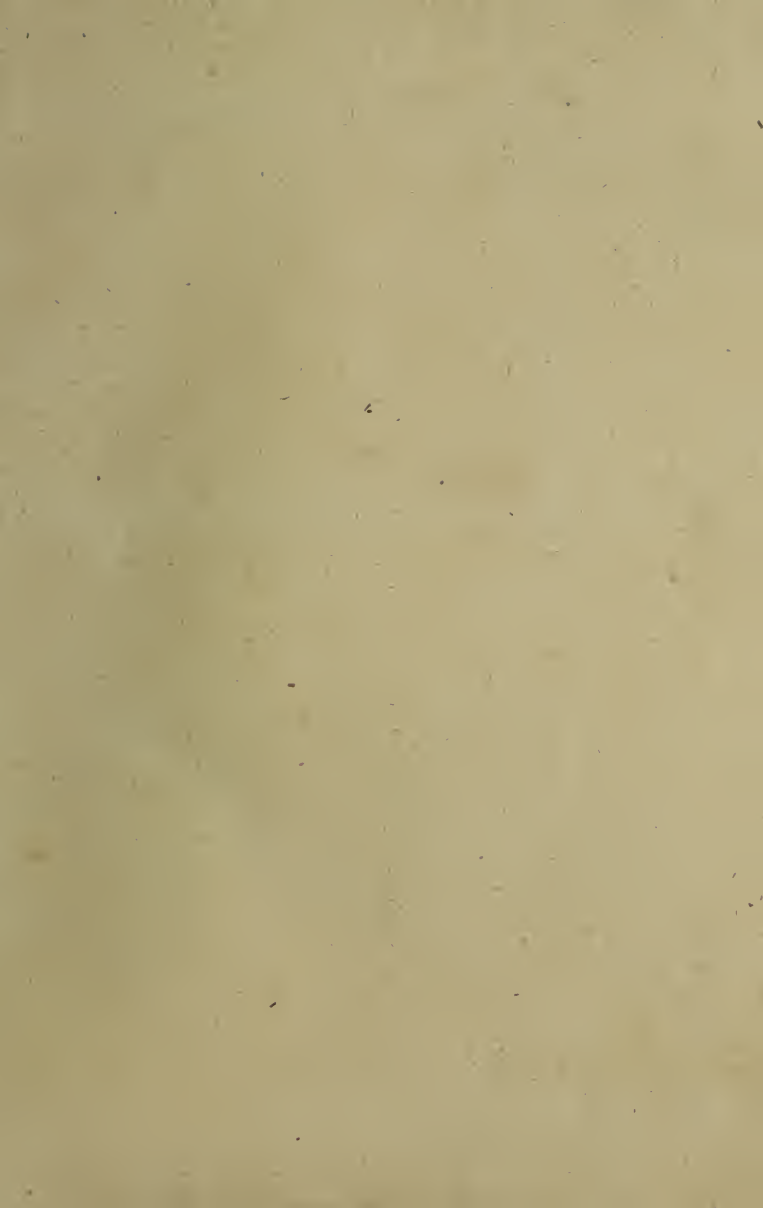




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**ANNALS**  
**HISTORICAL AND MEDICAL,**  
*DURING THE FIRST FOUR YEARS,*  
OF THE  
**UNIVERSAL DISPENSARY**  
FOR  
**CHILDREN,**

*ST. ANDREW'S HILL, DOCTORS' COMMONS,*

**FOUNDED IN 1816;**

For the sole Purpose of affording prompt medical Aid to the Children of the  
necessitous Poor, from the Period of their Birth to the Age of Twelve  
Years, from all parts of the Metropolis and its Vicinity :

**OPEN,**

**IN CASES OF DANGER,**

To a First Application for Relief without Recommendation.

**TO WHICH IS ADDED,**

**A CONCISE ESSAY,**

In elucidation of the Rules and Methods adopted at the Institution, on

***THE BODILY MANAGEMENT***

OF

**Children,**

With a View to assist in the Preservation of their Health,  
as the means of promoting their Intellectual and  
Physical Improvement.

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*Edited, pursuant to an Order of the Committee of the 29th of May, 1820, and  
confirmed by the General Meeting of the 2d November,*

**By JOHN BUNNELL DAVIS, M.D.**

Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of London—Senior Physician  
and Founder of the Universal Dispensary for Children—Senior  
Physician of the London Dispensary, and Physician of  
the Surrey Dispensary, &c. &c.

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**London :**

**PUBLISHED FOR THE INSTITUTION,**  
**By W. SIMPKIN AND R. MARSHALL,**  
*Stationer's-Court, Ludgate Hill.*

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**1821.**



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Plummer and Brewis, Printers, Love Lane, Eastcheap.

TO THE  
PATRONS AND PATRONESSES,  
THE VICE PATRONS,  
PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENTS,  
TREASURER, DIRECTORS,  
GOVERNORS AND GOVERNESSES  
OF THE  
*UNIVERSAL DISPENSARY FOR CHILDREN,*  
AND TO  
A BENEVOLENT PUBLIC,  
THE FOLLOWING PAGES  
ARE INSCRIBED  
WITH PROFOUND GRATITUDE AND RESPECT,  
BY THEIR  
DEVOTED, FAITHFUL, AND  
OBLIGED SERVANT,  
THE EDITOR.

November 30th, 1820.

*At a Meeting of the Committee, held the 29th of  
May, 1820.*

It was resolved, and subsequently confirmed,  
at a General Meeting held on the 2d of November,  
1820, at the City of London Tavern,

“That a full account of the Origin, Progress,  
Reports, &c., and Proceedings of the *Universal  
Dispensary for Children*; with such observations  
as may be necessary, be prepared for publication  
by Dr. John B. Davis, Senior Physician and  
Founder of the Institution.”

*At a Meeting of the Committee of the 28th of  
August, 1820,*

On the report of Dr. Davis, that the above  
work was in a state of forwardness, It was further  
resolved, and subsequently confirmed at the General  
Meeting of the 2d of November, “That the  
same be forthwith published.”

## PREFACE.

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THE art of prolonging life—of preventing and curing disease, has ever been placed among the most important and honourable occupations of man. But, not until the circulation of the blood was discovered by our immortal Harvey—not until the lymphatic system was explored—not until the nervous system, which brings man in contact with the material world, and raises him to the highest scale in the creation, occupied the close attention of the physiologist, was the science of medicine placed upon a rational and solid basis. Still, with all these advantages, and all the subsequent improvements in the practice of medicine, brought, as it now is, in this country, in particular, to high perfection, our knowledge falls far short of what it one day may become, in consequence

of the public having opened extended facilities in the numerous hospitals, infirmaries, and dispensaries of every description in this metropolis, as well for the investigation of the laws of life, in health and disease, as for the diminution of the sufferings of human nature. Not, however, until the latter end of the last century, did the pathology of the infant frame attract the peculiar attention of physicians: then, an Armstrong, a Smith, an Underwood, began to point out the vast importance of investigating the diseases of early life, and the interesting field for enquiry and observation, which the infant economy unfolds to us.

But although this department of science is only in its dawn, enough is known to assure us, that it presents an interest, at least, equal to any other branch of medicine. In order even to acquire a more ample knowledge of the physiology of man, it will be found essential, first, to trace the laws of organization and animal life, in the simple state of the infant economy, which, indeed, offers to our consideration, an almost passive existence, more vegetative, for a time, than animal: and so

long as we find ourselves at a loss in exploring the phenomena of the infant frame which, in the passive state of infancy, are comparatively few and simple, we are not likely to attain correct ideas of the economy of man, which presents a tout-ensemble, as complicated as it is various. The foundation of knowledge, in the science of life, thus naturally rests upon the infant, not the adult frame; and where the study of the science of life begins, there also commences the study of disease.

How important then must be that Institution, which, in aiming at the cure and prevention of disease among children, strives also to make a first step to the investigation of the thorny path of science, as respects the laws of health and disease—to lay a corner stone for building on a firmer basis the healing art.

The spot for the prosecution of this important object, is the metropolis. In no part of the world are the charities, and therefore the facilities of every description so numerous, as in the capital of the British empire: and for many of the medical establishments, nay, for some

others also, the community is chiefly indebted to the members of the medical profession. To them, their first institution, as well as their improvement and continued support, is greatly to be ascribed. If we take the success of these charities, as the standard of the estimation in which they are held, this high claim of the profession on public gratitude, appears to be universally admitted—a claim, which is well commented on by a late writer, in his introduction to the *Memoirs of the Royal College of Physicians*. “The public establishments, however,” adds that writer, “instead (as they are to the other learned professions) of being a source of emolument, are to the physician and surgeon, on the contrary, a source of gratuitous labour and vexatious attention. They that bear the heat and burden of the day, frequently are the only persons that do not participate in the harvest.”

By means of the medical establishments, not less than a twentieth part of the population of the lower orders are annually relieved, and a sum expended on them to an enormous amount.

The number of diseased individuals that are provided for in hospitals, or gratuitously supplied with advice and medicines, either at their own dwellings, or by daily attendance at different charities, is truly astonishing.

In this metropolis there are twenty-two hospitals, or asylums for the sick, the lame, and for pregnant women; seventeen dispensaries for gratuitously supplying the necessitous with medicines and medical aid at their own houses—one Royal Humane Society for the recovery of the apparently Dead—one Universal Dispensary for the Sick Children of the Necessitous Poor, who are relieved in it from every district of the metropolis and its vicinity; besides one hundred and twenty-seven places for the reception of the aged and infirm, who are clothed and fed, and are provided also with every medical attention; and a poor house to every parish, for the reception and medical accommodation of the distressed!!

Within the space of eight miles around London, it is estimated, that the population amounts to 1,100,000; within its immediate environs and districts, north, south, east, and west, to 950,000.

Out of this number it is supposed, that 50,000 poor persons *daily* receive advice and medicines : and that *one-third* are visited at home, without any charge to them !

Taking the average number of children under two years of age, admitted into the public medical institutions, to be one in fifteen, only 3333 poor children will have the advantage of such medical advice and medicines daily, as these charities afford ; a number which must fall very short indeed of the number actually diseased, for more than that number are annually relieved in the Universal Dispensary for Children alone.

Before we enter upon the general history, it is incumbent to remark, that besides the Dispensary now established for the Diseases of Infancy and Childhood, another great object is in the contemplation of its benevolent founders, in order to complete their plan, as soon as the funds are capable of embracing it. This is the establishment of Places of Recovery for Diseased Children, and for those who are in a convalescent state. Such places will require to be at some

distance from London—to have the command of a dry and salubrious situation, and all those advantages which tend to improve or restore health. No plan could contribute so effectually to lessen the mortality of infants, and to render them robust and vigorous. In a situation of this kind, where children may be kept in detached cottages, or apartments, all the danger would be avoided of those infectious diseases, so prevalent in infancy; or, at least, children would escape taking them at a season, when their health is unfit to meet the shock of such rude assailants.

In a plan of detached cottages, greater attention can be paid to cleanliness, exercise, diet, and whatever respects the proper care of this period of life. How superior must appear the advantages of such a plan, well arranged, to the mere establishment of an Infirmary in town, however careful the attendance may be, and however judicious the treatment proposed. It is perfectly clear, that wherever numbers are crowded in one place, under the influence of various diseases, the seeds of infection must there be early sown, and not only recovery retarded, but the maladies

that exist, rendered more severe. Hence, it is daily observed, in the infirmary and hospital, that the person who enters a crowded ward with a slight indisposition, has it often so aggravated, as to terminate fatally, when no such event would have occurred, had he continued in his own apartments, or in a situation free from contamination.

If this statement then is correct in what respects the adult, which the records of every hospital confirm, how precarious in their good effects upon society, must such establishments, or infirmaries, solely appropriated to the diseases of infancy, prove. In that point of view, a very slight consideration must shew the ineligibility, not to say risk, of retaining under the same roofs, children free from infectious disorders, among those who are the subjects of them.

With no other view, than in justice to the Founders of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, is it necessary to comment upon the comparative superiority of a Dispensary over an Infirmary for Children, because the proposition

of founding an Infirmary, instead of Dispensary, agitated and discussed in their early proceedings was over-ruled and rejected, from a full persuasion of the bad consequences which would ensue to society from accumulating children in one spot, labouring under infectious diseases. In the next place, if an Infirmary be so established, and so planned, as to admit one class of diseased objects and exclude another, from an apprehension of spreading disease, it is perfectly obvious, that its utility must be very circumscribed, and in no wise adapted to the treatment of the diseases of children in general, their most dangerous complaints being for the most part of an infectious nature.

The only way in which an extended good can be accomplished for the rising generation among the poor, in respect of their health, is for individuals to associate in different districts, and to co-operate under one well arranged system, as of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, rendered complete through the medium of stations or auxiliary establishments, in Town, and of Houses of Recovery out of London. Interests, partially directed, and plans formed upon different principles,

can at most fulfil but a local benefit, and may often prove injurious to a plan, originally and avowedly projected for the accomplishment of a universal good.

The soil, which is deprived by a sudden obstruction, of the stream which gave it fertility, and which nourished it, cannot produce in the same abundance as before; but doubly fruitful will that soil become, if in addition to that stream, whose course flows without interruption from the fountain head, it is also watered by other rivulets, for then its fertilizing bounties yield a perpetual increase. When the mitigation of human suffering is the object, let interests unite, and let every impediment be put aside to the most advantageous direction of that stream, which British Charity can swell to any extent.

As an authentic and permanent memorial of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*—of its originality, views, and plans—as a basis for those records, which best display its operation and its merits—as an introduction to its future annals, the Directors and Governors have authorized the

publication of these pages, in the hope, that the favourable attention of the public will be thus fixed upon an Institution, which is actually conveying an extended benefit to every ramification of society—not to the families of the poor merely—but indirectly to those LITTLE ONES, who are the dear objects of our own parental care and solicitude.

Nor do the Directors and Governors for a moment suppose, that their appeal will be in vain. What a benevolent public has commenced, a benevolent public can, and they trust, will complete.

Will not that Genius which presides over the charitable endowments of this great metropolis, still hold out the hand of succour to the sick infant poor? Will it not supply pecuniary means to construct an edifice, adapted to the relief and accommodation of the patients, and to the convenience of business? Yes! Where there is worth—where utility is—where human misery can be assuaged, there a Briton glories to display that universal charity, which is the idol of his heart! As to the merits of our cause, let the work before

him speak for itself, with this single observation more, that from a CENTRAL SPOT at first, the *Universal Dispensary for Children* now acts through stations, in different districts, and through stations soon will act in every street, so that it is not one Institution, in fact, *but many*, parochial to every parish—foreign to no part—every man's own—and may every man therefore find an interest in it!!

To the zealous Co-Founders of this Charity—to the Directors and Governors who have honoured it with their Patronage—to the Treasurer—to the Committee of each successive year, who have so essentially contributed, by their counsels and their perseverance, to its success—to his Medical Coadjutors, whose services demand the warmest praise, the Editor begs to offer his most grateful thanks. To the united efforts of all these; the Charity is indebted for its Birth—its Progress—and its Reputation—the Necessitous Poor for a House of Succour for their Sick Children—our Country for the preservation of 10,000 lives, in the short space of four years and three months.

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**HISTORY**  
OF THE  
**UNIVERSAL DISPENSARY**  
FOR  
*CHILDREN,*  
&c. &c.

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ORIGIN AND FOUNDATION.

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TIME, the destroyer of all things, may sweep with leaden hand o'er all the monuments of art, which classic lore has consecrated—he may shiver into dust the proudest memorials of modern days—he may erase from written records all that is depicted of great, of noble, and of good—the records themselves, he may even consign for ever to oblivion—but, **BRITAIN'S CHARITIES** will live when time himself shall be no more!!

In Heaven's high records, no weeping angel need drop a tear to blot out the fairest page of our country's annals. Nay, may we not aspire to

hope that an approving smile will greet its presentation at the Throne of Grace? In that lasting memorial, with pious humility, we also trust that the charity which now employs our pen, will not be forgotten—a charity so eminently dedicated to the earthly, and even connected with the heavenly welfare of **THOSE LITTLE ONES**, of whom our blessed Redeemer so graciously exclaimed, “Suffer them to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of Heaven!”

If, in thus addressing the public at large, in favour of our Infant Establishment, now rapidly advancing to maturity, we seem to speak with an exclusive enthusiasm, it must be remembered that to this age, and to this country it has been reserved to add one of the most important links to the medical eleemosynary establishments of benevolence; or, in other words, to annex a capital to that Corinthian pillar of charity which adorns our metropolis, long eminently distinguished above all the cities of the earth for its numerous and brilliant specimens of national beneficence, extensive in their design, as they are liberal in their principles and practice.

It cannot be too soon impressed that the severity of *Children's Diseases*, the fatal rapidity with which they are known to proceed, and the difficulty hitherto experienced by the **POOR** in procuring prompt and efficacious medical relief for their *Sick Infants*, have long been subjects of painful regret. With these facts before us, we may be permitted in triumphant tone to record the addition, to the list of charities, of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, an institution which, by exclusively directing its efforts to the *preservation of health, and the cure of disease, among the children of the poor*, has considerably diminished in every district of the metropolis, and in the adjacent villages, the number of premature deaths in comparison with those which have annually occurred before. This fact is at once conclusive of the importance and utility of such an institution, and of the benefits which the most helpless class of our suffering fellow creatures have derived from its universal operation over such an extensive proportion of the national population—a proportion too, far more exposed to disease and its consequences, than any other district in the empire.

In the prosecution of this plan, it is most gratifying to state that the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, has already, within four years and a half from its foundation, carried relief into *one hundred and twenty-two parishes*, in the *western, eastern, northern and southern* districts of this great metropolis; and, it is necessary, distinctly to point out that the *Universal Dispensary for Children* is, and has been from its very establishment, an institution of a *general nature*, and not limited to a district, as other Dispensaries are, which are merely local.

*The Universal Dispensary for Children* admits patients from all parts of London, Westminster, Southwark, and the surrounding villages, and operates in a powerful and extensive way by relieving parents, parishes, and the public at large, from numerous burthens which they would otherwise be forced to sustain, in the event of the objects now assisted at this institution, being permitted to grow up infirm and delicate, or to become cripples, as has too often been the case, for want of due domestic management and proper medical help; and thus eventually to be in-

capable of procuring their livelihood, and of course falling a worse than useless burthen upon society.

In many points of view this establishment may be said to stand highly pre-eminent. In the first place, as an *Institution of a general nature*, for the relief of the sick infant poor in *every District*, affording advice and medicines gratuitously, open in every case of danger, on the first application, without waiting for a letter of admission, a ceremony too often productive of irretrievable detriment to the sufferer, and invariably an indispensable requisite in the other medical charities of the metropolis. This original and distinctive feature in the plan of the institution, is of the utmost importance, inasmuch as it admits of demonstration, that it is by this early and immediate administration of relief to the sick infant poor, that the ravages of disease will be, and have been abated, to an extent highly gratifying to humanity.

In the second place, this institution has become a central point, towards which the attention of the medical public may be directed, for

the specific investigation of the diseases of children and young persons ; a consideration of very great moment, even to the most opulent families, when we reflect, that the diseases of children are difficult to treat, and require, in an eminent degree, the almost exclusive attention of a great part of the faculty, who here have the multifarious complaints of so many thousand infants brought into one focus for observation.

In the third place, it is conspicuously useful, for its two-fold object of undertaking the cure of every disease of infancy, when formed ; and of preventing disease among the children of the poor, by an extensive circulation of *Rules, containing the best directions for the preservation of health.*

In the fourth place, as the health of the individual is, in this charity, protected to the twelfth year of age, there will be but little risk, if confirmed up to that period, of disease developing itself at puberty. It is impossible, therefore, not to view this Institution as having an effect ulterior to the mere age of infancy. The health of

the individual at puberty and manhood, must essentially depend upon the constitution he may form before the twelfth year; and hence its importance to man in every age of his life. Even the infirmities of old age will be diminished by it.

Fifthly, as it is the plan of this institution to treat disease in its bud, it necessarily operates, by counteracting the extension of contagious disorders, and superseding a necessity for that frequent recurrence to empirics, to whom, in the moment of danger and alarm, the poor, to their sorrow and expence, so often resort for their sick infants.

Lastly, it accomplishes the inestimable good, of encouraging among the poor, the sympathies of a common and natural humanity, and of inducing parents to be more vigilant over their children's health, from the example of kindness set them by those who in higher circles of society, deign to shew such anxiety for their welfare.

The utility of the *Universal Dispensary for*

*Children*, strongly evidenced in these facts, is further confirmed by the well known truth, that very few children, in comparison of adults, are, or can be admitted into other dispensaries or hospitals, which are designed more particularly for the reception of individuals of maturer age. Out of about 15,000 cases of disease admitted into the London Dispensary, in the course of ten years, by Dr. J. B. Davis, the senior physician, not more than one child, under five years of age, in 15 patients, was upon the average received. The same proportion, he has noticed also at the Surrey Dispensary: and yet more diseases occur before the fifth year, than at any subsequent period of life.

We shall not therefore be liable to contradiction, when we assert, that other medical institutions were absolutely inadequate to the prompt and complete relief of the diseases of children, on account of the impossibility, from their very regulations, of making a select treatment of any particular class of patients, to the exclusion of others.

In this observation, it is distinctly to be understood, that no kind of censure is in the slightest degree intended to be cast upon those establishments, upon the medical practitioners connected with them, or upon their liberal supporters. As well might the *Universal Dispensary for Children* become subject to animadversion, for not receiving adults under every case of accident or disease. Yet, in order to confirm the medical necessity for an infantine establishment, and exclusively as such, we should be remiss in the discharge of our present undertaking, were we not to enumerate some of the reasons, at least, of the inadequacy of the general medical institutions of the metropolis, in the cases for which an Universal Dispensary for Children was first founded, and has since been most generously sustained.

In the diseases of infancy, the most prompt assistance is, in the majority of cases, imperatively necessary—a promptitude which the hospitals or dispensaries cannot afford.—Add to this the effects resulting from the want of early assistance are too often beyond the power of the physician to repair, even with all that skill and assiduity

which the hospitals of this metropolis so uniformly display.

Previous to the establishment of this Institution, it must also be recollected, that parents had little idea of carrying their infants for medical help to hospitals or dispensaries, either from a conviction of the difficulty of procuring a letter of admission, or the more mistaken notion, that children would be neglected where grown up persons were to be attended to ; but, when an institution was established solely for the diseases of children, the idea of seeking instant assistance struck at once upon a parent's mind. Again, if parents had little idea of carrying their children to the existing dispensaries, they had still less of applying to hospitals, where very few are ever admitted under two years of age, that most important period, for which the *Universal Dispensary for Children* is particularly adapted.

Nor should it be forgotten, without intending by this remark to reflect upon the former or actual state of the theory and practice of medicine, that in no age, up to our own time, has the study of

the diseases of children, kept pace with the general advance of medical knowledge, a circumstance in some measure, to be explained, from infants being no longer the exclusive and particular care of any set of practitioners, after the first three months of their entrance into life, and the charge of the midwifery practitioner *only* up to that period.

We are happy to state that our new plan of affording relief, has been embraced with the greatest avidity by the parents of the patients—an avidity which is accompanied by a humble and modest gratitude creditable to themselves, and encouraging to the public; fully confirming the first ideas of the great benefits which might result from opening a door of charity to the sick infant poor, and planting, as it were, whilst it has offered an experimental example to other institutions, a tree in the centre of the metropolis, which might ultimately branch out and send forth its shoots, in various directions, similar to the National and Royal British Systems of mental education.

The medical founder of this important insti-

tution, had long felt a thorough conviction of the want of a public establishment of this kind, but his attention was more particularly called to it in the year 1815, in consequence of the numerous opportunities he had had of ascertaining, that a very large proportion of children born in the metropolis, perished prematurely before they attained their fifth year, in great measure, from a want of that prompt and particular medical aid, which such an institution might have afforded them, in alleviation of the inattention or ignorance of their parents ; from which causes, in addition to endemial and epidemical disease, it must be confessed, so many of them fall early victims to a lingering death.

To illustrate this most fully, it is only necessary to record from the bills of mortality of that year, that 5200 children died under *two* years of age, and 1916 between that and five, making a total of 7116, out of a grand total of 19,560 ! or more than *one-third* ! Nor are the results of preceding years more favourable than of 1815.

It may be here observed, in reference to this

interesting charity, that if it is of consequence to commence the mental education of children, whilst young, and before they have acquired depraved and improper notions—if it is of consequence to conduct from an early period the bodily education, in order to give a full and complete developement of the frame, and to obviate habits which would resist so desirable an object, and which cannot easily be removed when they are ten or twelve years of age—so is it of importance to attend to early health, were it for no other purpose, but to prevent that frequent and self-willed recurrence to nostrums, which the poorer classes of mothers are too often in the practice of applying. Much more so however, for giving to the whole system that uniform bias which favours a freedom of action in the bodily organs, at a most critical moment, when even the bony fabric and the viscera are yet in an imperfect state, and where the health of the mind is so dependent upon the health of the body.—“*Ut sit mens sana in corpore sano.*”

Neither is it to be slightly passed by, that with a vigorous infant population we may fairly look

forward to the time when there will be fewer workhouses—fewer hospitals, and diminished rates; since all, or almost all, will then be capable of employment, in agriculture, commerce, manufactures, maritime occupations or military service.

We are sensible that this reasoning is, in some measure, in opposition to the new fangled and unchristian-like doctrine of some modern political economists, who not only *theoretically* but *practically* urge the evil consequences to be apprehended from an excess of population, and the necessity of allowing children to die off, as a preventive.

Without accusing MALTHUS of having intentionally fostered such an opinion, we avail ourselves of his testimony in favour of the assertion that there is something particularly unfavourable to infant health in large towns; and thence an imperative expediency for such an establishment as the present. We agree with him, that it is not absolutely the superior degree of domestic refinement, of luxury, or of vice, but the contaminated state of the air, and a want of sufficient circulation in it, which are so pernicious to

children requiring the additional means of health which a rural life supplies. He says, and indeed, not without some truth, that parents possessing the soundest constitutions, and leading the most regular temperate life, seldom have their children enjoy the same health in town as in the country. Yet, London, in regard to its local situation, both of soil and aspect, may be considered to be the best adapted to health of any part of the empire. Were it not so, the mortality from artificial causes, would indeed be dreadful. It is pleasing, however, to reflect that its healthiness is increasing; or, to speak with more accuracy, that its mortality is diminishing, even whilst it augments so rapidly in size. When Dr. Short wrote, the annual mortality of England was 1 in 37: when Dr. Price wrote, the mortality of the metropolis was about 1 in 22, considerably greater than in smaller cities; Liverpool, Manchester, &c. not affording upon the average more than 1 in 28.\* By the latest returns of the population, the general mortality is not above 1 in 40: and London has participated largely in the improvement.

\* See also a paper on this subject by Dr. Heberden in the fourth volume of the Medical Transactions of the College of Physicians.

But, if it be true, "*Fas est et ab hoste doceri*," we must here particularly remark the difference between infantine mortality in Paris and in London. It was stated a few years ago, on some French authority, that the deaths under two years of age did then considerably preponderate in the latter capital, even after taking into account its superior size.

Let us at the same time impress upon our minds, for that is worthy of special notice, that when we arrive at the period at which the faculties and passions become developed, the deaths in Paris greatly exceed those of London, pointing out the operation and effects of physical, moral, and political causes upon health and longevity. From hence we may fairly conclude that in London there is something peculiarly inimical to infantine convalescence: and that in a great variety of cases, removal to a purer atmosphere is the only remedy that can essentially avail—a consideration which had its due weight with the medical founder, even in his first thoughts on the subject, as will be further developed in the progress of this memoir.

The general plan being matured in his mind, the chief difficulty was to bring that plan before the public. At that moment, more than one charitable institution in the metropolis were sinking under increased expenditure and diminished means of meeting it: and although his profession might appear to give him frequent opportunities of enforcing the utility of the plan, yet a sick chamber is not the place for discussing a public concern. Besides, the anxiety of friends, to make enquiries on retiring, more than occupied such spare minutes as might occur between visits to different patients, in the course of practice.

These ideas and difficulties had occurred very early in the present century, soon after the founder's return from France in 1807, where he had been a prisoner nearly five years, under the usurpation of Buonaparte. At that period the whole nation was so completely occupied with the state of politics and warfare, that, making allowance for all the love of novelty supposed to possess the public mind, it still appeared an Herculean task for an individual to attempt, upon a public scale, a concern of such magnitude, although of high interest to all classes.

Fortunately he was not aware at that time that an establishment for the sick infant poor had been undertaken by Dr. George Armstrong in 1776. The knowledge of such a fact would naturally have damped his ardour in the prosecution of his purpose, and checked him in his first attempt in 1812, when he communicated the subject, in all its general bearings, to Sir Walter Farquhar, bart. physician to His present Majesty, then Prince Regent, and also to Dr. Jenner, as two individuals well calculated to appreciate its merits, and to further its success. Both of these eminent physicians seemed fully to admit the want of such an establishment, and to prognosticate its utility in providing a suitable remedy for the severe sufferings of the sick infant poor. They, however, declined, from numerous avocations, to take any part in the first labours of its formation, but still kindly and generously promised their patronage to it, in a more matured state, when the Founder should have completed the arrangement of his plan.

Alone, and for the moment unassisted, the founder did not despair of final success, and therefore continued his efforts on all favourable

occasions, suggesting his ideas next on this subject to his friends Dr. William Saunders, and Mr. Abernethy, yet making no further decisive attempt until the autumn of 1815, when he circulated amongst a few private friends, distinguished for their zealous philanthropy and perseverance, a written address explanatory of his views and object.

This period, appeared to him most particularly suited for the public developement of his plan. The nation was then in a state of tranquillity, and relieved from the anxiety and expence of a tedious warfare. Men's minds were more at liberty to take this subject into consideration, and to listen patiently to those views which had occupied the founder's mind for a long series of years. It is true, indeed, that the works of peace and charity had proceeded rapidly, and in an unprecedented manner, in this happy island, notwithstanding the protraction of hostilities: still, it is not less the fact, that the founder now perceived in his friends a stronger disposition to lend their aid in furtherance of his purpose. Among the arguments he urged in this pursuit was the représentation of the blessings to every

class, of possessing a fine healthy family of children, and the admitted certainty that little domestic happiness could exist, where that was not the case. From this, the transition was easy to the consideration of the poor, and of the expediency of procuring for them, at a comparatively small expence, a large share of that domestic comfort, which arises from seeing a healthy family around them, instead of suffering them to be worn down with sickly infants, and kept in poverty by the great expenditure unavoidable under such afflicting circumstances. He was anxious to point out that if ignorance is a source of moral depravity, which can only be cured by education of the mind, so are early infirmity and weakness certain sources of future disease and misery, proving that the education of the body from infancy is as necessary as the cultivation of the mind.

Even then he pointed out the *probable moral effects* of his plan, which time and experience have amply confirmed, both in regard to parents and to children; and that also, to an extent of which the public cannot be aware: for gratitude is silent and unseen, whilst ingratitude is conspicuous. In fact, if the philanthropic supporters

of this institution could desire a reward for the benefits resulting from their efforts, it would be found in that humble, modest acknowledgment, which has almost invariably been manifested by the parents of the little patients. Medical men can alone have the opportunity of witnessing these feelings. It will be a gratification to a generous public to know that human nature among the lower classes of society, participates more largely in them, than is generally imagined.

In this point of view then it cannot be denied that great and permanent blessings have already been conferred both upon the parents and children, although the objects of the institution were ostensibly and avowedly confined to the latter.

Under the influence of these preceding considerations was the plan first meditated, and so far settled as to lead to the proposed establishment of an *Universal Dispensary for the Sick Children of the necessitous Poor*, not without reflecting on the probability of the addition thereto of an *Infirmery, under certain restrictions*, out

of London. Some powerful objections, however, operated against the establishment of an *Infirmary*, from the very first.

In the infancy of the plan, a *Dispensary* upon some new and advantageous principle, was that which could be instituted at the smallest expence. It is a species of medical institution, to which most of the poor, particularly the better class of them, will sooner have recourse than to an hospital or infirmary. Under the care of a *Dispensary*, they can remain in their own habitations, humble as they may be, surrounded and affectionately nursed by their dearest relatives, and by those who feel a natural and earnest interest in their welfare. Even if they are to die, they have the satisfaction of dying at home!! But if this applies to adults, how much more does it attach to infants, who cannot be readily separated from their mothers, both from propriety, natural affection, and the wants which a mother's care can alone supply?

Nay, even if ample means had existed to establish an *Infirmary*, from the first, it would have been left unexecuted, if no other reason had prevailed, than the well known fact, that the most

frequent diseases of children, of an acute description, are for the *greater part* infectious. Hence it became an imperative duty, to avoid incurring the hazard of super-inducing one disease upon another, and to separate the children, as much as possible, even during their attendance at the *Dispensary* itself.

Not so, however, with regard to infants in a state of convalescence. When the danger of infection is passed over, and the work of recovery commenced, then and then only can an *Infirmary* be useful, and perfectly safe, and not then, unless established at a short distance from the metropolis, in an airy healthy situation. An *Infirmary* upon such a principle as this, as an appendage to, or a part of the *Dispensary* in the centre of the metropolis, was entertained from the beginning, and the first ideas thereon suggested to the public by the founder, in his "Cursory Inquiry," published in 1817. It was indeed then anticipated, that parishes would generally appoint poor houses out of town, at the distance of a few miles, for the reception of children: and it was represented how soon, in most instances, the good effects of a change of air, even in deplorable cases, from a

poor-house in town, upon indigent children, would be evident, and how great a proportion of invalid children would be found to recover unexpectedly, and even without medicine, very fast after their removal, instead of becoming emaciated, hectic, ricketty, and highly unhealthy, as would be the case if suffered to remain in London.

With the greatest success indeed, the experiment has been already made in the parish of Christ Church, Surrey, and in many parishes in the city. Through the active zeal of Benjamin Hawes, Esq. that former parish has, for some years, established a house of reception at Wandsworth, for the infant poor, where they enjoy excellent health; so much so, that although the children in the house average, in general, from 30 to 35; yet, instances of mortality among them are scarcely known. Upon these principles, and with a knowledge of such important advantages, it was then suggested, that it would be desirable for parishes or districts to unite, and to establish a house out of London, as a house of recovery, for the purpose of receiving such children as were sickly in town. By these means, a great many lives might be annually saved, and arrange-

ments also made for the admission of a certain number of patients yearly from the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, where objects most requiring a change of air would be oftenest concentrated.

It was further strongly urged, that by no more effectual way, in many cases of infantine disease, connected or not with complicated or severe distress, could relief be administered, than in asylums around the Metropolis, for the reception of such poor sick children as were proper objects; and that if only three or four asylums were constructed in different districts, in which nothing but the plainest accommodation, and mere necessary comforts were considered, a great and certain benefit would result.

It was indeed impracticable for the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, in its infant state, to attempt such establishments from its own funds; but, it was nevertheless contemplated, that at an early period, the finances might admit of the formation of *Rural Infirmaries* for hectic patients, by hiring cottages of reception, in the first instance, for patients to whom such relief might be

absolutely necessary, and the only expedient that could be of effectual service, of which, unhappily, in these cases of distress, the children of the poor alone are deprived. The benefits of a sea-bathing infirmary, to a certain class of diseased objects, are not more striking, than the good effects of a change of air would be to a large proportion of the sickly children of the poor in the Metropolis. The very thought of these little sufferers not participating in what alone could assuage their misery, and restore them to health, is distressing in the extreme!! What a door is here opened for the exercise of charity?

Still were the intentions, above alluded to, regulated by a fixed determination to avoid every system which could, in the slightest degree, tend to promote the propagation of disease, by infection. So strongly indeed did this feeling operate, that at a very early stage of the institution, the Directors and Governors unanimously determined to use every precaution, not to permit the promiscuous intercourse of patients at the *Dispensary*; and at the same time to use every exertion in their power to assist in exterminating that most infectious and fatal of all diseases, the *small-pox*,

excluding such patients from the benefit of the charity, and promoting the cause of vaccination, with a view to give effect to the recommendation of the legislature, as well as to fulfil the wishes of the *Royal Patrons*, who had already given countenance to this useful establishment. In consequence of this, one of its earliest regulations, the *Universal Dispensary for Children* has been held clear and distinct from all other existing establishments, both in principle and operation, thereby offering an imposing example for the conduct of future ones.

It must not however be supposed that the principles, on which the founders of the *Universal Dispensary for Children* first began to act, comprehended any thing like the extent of the objects which they had remotely in their view. They contemplated the period, with anxiety, when the maturity of their plans, and the state of their funds, would permit them to contribute more essentially to the amelioration of the unhappy condition of the sick infant poor, not only by strenuous exertions for the removal of actual disease, but in pointing out and encouraging such plans for the invigora-

tion of the body, as would lead to its prevention through infancy up to youth.

Thus they adverted with sorrow, to the system by which so many poor children, nay, even whilst infants, are confined for a series of hours each day, in manufactories, of the most pernicious nature to their tender lungs. They felt, that as the study of the preservation of health, and the laws of life should commence with infancy, so was it to be hoped, that an institution formed for that object, would naturally become the first link in the chain of national charities, the corner-stone of the edifice, as it were, and the basis on which they should all stand.

It is with the highest gratification they have lately heard of the project for a grand central house, or Charity hall, for the purpose of conducting therein all the business connected with the eleemosynary proceedings of the metropolis; first, embracing the general institutions, such as the Royal Humane Society, the Marine Society, the Refuge for the Destitute, the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, the National Schools, the Universal Dispensary for Children, the Societies for Foreigners in Distress, for Prison Discipline, &c. &c.; and then

extending its conveniencies to more local charities, such as the dispensaries and infirmaries for districts, local schools, and all kinds of local Institutions of a charitable nature, forming in short a central position, where all public meetings might be held for charitable purposes—where information on all such subjects might be transmitted—and from whence intelligence might also be diffused, thus keeping the charitable institutions more effectually before the public eye.

Such were some of the leading principles and anticipations, when the **PLAN** was first proposed and examined into by a few friends in 1815, who were convinced, that it was only necessary for it to be set on foot, to meet with universal patronage ; especially when it should be ascertained, that the great advantages to be derived, from giving a peculiar attention to the health of the children of the poor, were very likely to be speedily realized by the rich in their own families. The reasons for this are obvious, if we reflect that it was not from the previous system in the metropolis, that the full investigation and knowledge of infantine diseases could be accurately acquired ; inasmuch as, in the existing schools of medicine, it was impossible to afford exclusive attention to them,

whilst the student's time was absorbed in the more general objects of medical science—where indeed very few opportunities of practice occurred—and where no clinical lectures on that subject were, or are delivered. But, when in the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, fresh opportunities would be given for ascertaining, by a careful and extended attention to facts and cases, the best practical means of resisting and correcting the deleterious agency of physical powers on the infant economy, and of treating infantine diseases in general, then might it eventually be expected, that an improvement in this department of science would ensue, and carry its benefits to the higher classes to an extent commensurate with the warmest patronage.

A doubt could scarcely exist that a more successful mode of treating the diseases of children would ultimately ensue from the early opportunity afforded to the physician of attacking them in the bud, owing to that prominent feature of the institution, which provides for instant admission and prompt assistance, in every case of danger, without waiting for a letter of recommendation.

Amongst other expected coadjutors, it was

felt, that the patrons of all public schools, and of the Society for Bettering the Condition of the Poor, would consider themselves as particularly interested in the success of the institution. In a *national* point of view, it was presumed, that it would stand conspicuously eminent, as promising an extended preservation of the lives of a very large proportion of the population of the empire.

It was thus, although up to the autumn of 1815, the efforts of the founder in furtherance of his plan, were interrupted by various events, that, towards the close of that year he determined to circulate a printed address among his friends, and is happy to have the pleasure of recording among his first associates, those highly respectable inhabitants of the parish of Christ Church, Surrey, Benjamin Hawes, esq. and S. W. Sweet, esq. a district which abounds in benevolent and liberal individuals for every work of charity, whether private or national.

In this printed address, the Founder urged some of the reasons here detailed, stating the fact, that a few gentlemen deeply impressed with a sense of the expediency of some establishment, for the exclusive treatment of the diseases of

children, and of those in particular, incidental to infancy and childhood, in a central part of the metropolis; and lamenting the serious fact, of the very extensive mortality among children, in London, under five years of age, had resolved on a meeting to consider of the practicability of diminishing such mortality, and to form a plan for carrying their endeavours into immediate execution, by appointing a central place for a physician to examine patients, and administer his advice.

By this expedient, the Founder so far succeeded in diffusing the impression of the great public advantages of his plan, that a meeting of gentlemen for a full consideration of the subject was resolved upon; and every facility for that meeting afforded in the first instance, by the very liberal and well-timed offer of the committee of the Royal Humane Society, who freely proposed to allow the use of their committee room at the office in St. Pauls' Church Yard, for that purpose. This was an auspicious commencement, and a very important point gained, for which the founder and all his coadjutors, felt themselves particularly grateful to Benjamin Hawes, Esq. one of the treasurers

of that invaluable society, and to the other gentlemen composing the committee. In fact, this offer was in perfect consonance with the liberal and enlightened views of those individuals, upon every occasion of charity—individuals distinguished for their general benevolence—for their sedulous attentions to the god-like work of promoting the restoration and preservation of life—of protecting, and of devising means further to protect their fellow-creatures from casualty—for the collection and circulation of the best methods of resuscitation—and for advancing the objects of a Society, which has given birth, not only in the united kingdom, but in various parts of the world, to similar institutions for the preservation of life, and its restoration when suspended. In forwarding the views of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, they have exercised a rare philanthropy: and truly grateful are the directors and governors of it, for their early liberality in facilitating its establishment, and for the aid and counsel of many of the most distinguished members of the Royal Humane Society, in its formation and subsequent progress. Well, indeed, have they done the “honours at home”!!! It is the pleasing task of

the historian of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, to record the acknowledgments of that body, to those who nursed, as it were, this Institution, in its cradle, and supplied its earliest wants. With truth, may it be asserted, that by this liberality, the Royal Humane Society has added another flower to the wreath with which it is encircled. By the subsequent growth of their infant charge, that wreath has acquired a fresh lustre ; its progress redoubles the gratitude of the child to the parent, and stimulates it to repay the service it has derived from a noble institution, which, under the guidance of an able Committee, proceeds, and we trust, ever will proceed, with energy and effect, in its career of glorious benevolence!!

Among those who had invariably manifested the greatest anxiety for the establishment of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, was Sir Thomas Bell, knt., and at that period Sheriff of London and Middlesex. As the first meeting was determined on for the 30th Nov. 1815, he was written to by the Founder to honour that meeting by his presence. In this, however, the founder and his friends were disappointed, but

unavoidably, as appears from the following letter.

November 27, 1815.

“ MY DEAR SIR,

I have this moment received your letter, and am exceedingly mortified that your meeting is fixed for Thursday the 30th instant, as it was my wish to be present on an occasion so interesting to humanity. On that evening, I am most particularly engaged both as sheriff, and as steward to the anniversary meeting of the Scot's hospital, being St. Andrew's day.

I remain,

Dear Sir,

Your's sincerely,

THOMAS BELL.”

To Dr. J. B. Davis.

Having paid this tribute due to the intentions of a most worthy, useful, and benevolent member of society, to whom so many charities are so highly indebted for his active and zealous exertions, and particularly whilst sheriff, thereby giving dignity to the office with which he was invested, and justly endearing himself to every friend of humanity, we may go on to state that

a meeting did take place, at the time appointed, at the committee room of the Royal Humane Society, professedly, to consider the advantages which might result to society, from the establishment of an institution for the sole purpose of affording medical relief to the children of the poor, whose situation was so often deplorable from want of the seasonable and efficacious administration thereof.

At this meeting were present the following gentlemen, all of whom had already manifested great anxiety for, and displayed a laudable activity in promoting the success of the cause.

BENJAMIN HAWES, ESQ.

AUGUSTUS A. FRY, ESQ.

S. W. SWEET, ESQ.

JOHN BARKER, ESQ.

JOHN ABBOTT, ESQ.

THOMAS MARSHALL, ESQ.

GEORGE BY, ESQ.

BENJAMIN BIGGS, ESQ.

CHARLES CULLEN, ESQ.

H. BRANDON, JUN. ESQ.

W. DRIVER, ESQ. A.A.

SAMUEL TIPPER, ESQ.

TIMOTHY H. DAVIS, ESQ.

JOHN A. GILLHAM, ESQ.

WILLIAM MARSHALL, ESQ.

JOSEPH BARBER, ESQ.

GEORGE FRED. DAVIS, ESQ.

JOSEPH ATKINSON, ESQ.

BENJAMIN GOODWIN DAVIS, ESQ.

Together with the medical founder DR. J. B. DAVIS, and several others.

On this occasion, William Driver, Esq. was unanimously called to the chair, when the preparatory address by the Founder, already alluded to, was read and approved of.\*

\* An address *in behalf of the Establishment of an Institution for the exclusive treatment of DISORDERS IN CHILDREN; both those specifically incident to Infancy and Childhood, and those occurring to either of these ages, in common with other periods of life.*

“ Amongst the numerous Establishments in this great city for the alleviation of suffering humanity—establishments which form its just praise, and a gratifying proof of the liberal and benevolent spirit of the British nation—it is singular that no institution has been created, or system, under public sanction, patronized, for the

It was then resolved on the motion of S. W. Sweet, Esq. seconded by Benjamin Biggs, Esq.

exclusive treatment of Diseases in Children, and of those in particular, incidental to infancy and childhood.

A few gentlemen, deeply impressed with a sense of the expediency of some establishment for this purpose, in a central part of the metropolis, and, lamenting the serious fact, that nearly *one half* of all who are born in London die before they attain *five years* of age, have assembled to consider the practicability of preventing so great a mortality, and to determine on a plan to carry their endeavours into immediate execution, by appointing a convenient place for the physician to examine patients, and administer his advice—Encouraged, likewise, by the success of other valuable institutions for the exclusive investigation and cure of particular diseases; and influenced by the imperious motive of rescuing from disease, the Children of the Poor, (of whom so many, from want of proper medical assistance, and a culpable inattention of their parents, fall victims to premature death,) they have been induced to patronize the physician's efforts for their particular relief: in the sanguine hope, that, when an institution, which promises such extensive benefit to the most helpless of the human race, shall come recommended to the public, on the unerring results of fair experiment and trial, it will acquire the approbation of all classes of society, and the zealous countenance and support of the affluent and humane.

Numerous and pitiable as the objects are whom this institution is intended to assist, little fear can be entertained for its success in

“that an *Universal Dispensary for Children* should be instituted.” A committee consisting of the

a country as pre-eminent for philanthropy, as for its generous rivalry in arts and arms. Would it not be an undeserved reflection, for a moment to suppose that, whilst the British nation, so eminently conspicuous for its charity, is stretching out a succouring hand to foreign distress—to human misery abroad—the sad consequence of the devastations of war—it could withhold, from the most helpless and destitute of our fellow-creatures at home, that christian benevolence and compassionate care, which their age, wants, sufferings, and natural claims on our humanity so justly demand?

The advantage of existing medical institutions for the relief and cure of the Sick Poor, who are unable, without the assistance of the rich, to procure medical aid, has been fully confirmed by experience; and the establishment of institutions for the treatment of diseases, separately, promises great benefit to mankind; so that, the modern usage, of creating separate institutions for different disorders, combines with an alarming mortality, to recommend a plan formed with a design to combat Diseases in Children. In an attempt to shorten this catalogue of mortality; and to correct an evident and degrading physical degeneracy of the human species, in the lower orders of this great city, we may take a still wider view of this important subject, when we shall be convinced that a due regard and compassion for the sufferings of sick indigent children, and an endeavour to alleviate them, are not only fulfilling a religious duty, but advancing the healing art, and adopting the soundest policy, both with respect to our own families and society in general.

following gentlemen, Benjamin Hawes, Esq. S. W. Sweet, Esq. Benjamin Biggs, Esq. Charles

From causes, perhaps inexplicable, Disorders in Children do not appear to have met with that exclusive and peculiar attention in medical practice, which their obscure and fatal nature requires: nor are parents sufficiently impressed with the great importance of removing, in early life, any unusual appearance or symptom not immediately injurious. Even a slight deviation from health, is, in fact, but too often the rudiment of serious disease not yet developed, though frequently mistaken for, and attributed to, some natural change of the body, incidental to growth, and of no consequence. A critical period, however, is this, it may be observed, for the parent and physician to co-operate in averting disease; and for restoring a weakly constitution to the standard of health, from which it ought now to be considered as having already departed.

In a few words, this want of an intermediate institution for the treatment of Diseases in Children is exemplified in the alarming mortality that occurs; one half of the objects, who stand in need of the assistance an establishment of this kind is intended to bestow, dying at two or three years of age, without having partaken of the benefit of an hospital or dispensary. Another confirmation of such a want, if required, may be seen in the inadequacy of hospitals and dispensaries to avert effectually this alarming evil; as these, from the very nature of their organization, do not admit of the select treatment of any particular disorder, to the exclusion of others; and hence the humane mind has been led to wish for some intermediate institution to supply this imperfection, in order that the poor and helpless Child of Disease may become the exclusive care of one branch of public medicine.

Cullen, Esq. George By, Esq. Henry Brandon, Esq. and Dr. J. B. Davis, was appointed to consider the best mode of establishing and carrying a plan into effect—to arrange a prospectus and resolutions for publication—and to make a report to a general meeting, which was appointed to be held at the London Coffee House, at seven o'clock on the evening of Thursday the 14th day of December.

The committee was also directed to meet for the first time on Monday, December 4th, three being considered a quorum. The usual votes of thanks were then given; after which the first meeting adjourned, with the highest hopes of

Should the public encourage so useful an establishment, medical charity may diffuse new and extensive blessings over the human race; and this branch of the healing art, hitherto united with the general practice of medicine, may become the separate object of cultivation, and afford the most beneficial results. By it, the best interests of our country will be promoted, in the preservation and vigour of its population: many disorders, which afflict and disfigure man, and shorten his existence, may be mitigated and subdued; mortality diminished; and the physical degeneracy, remarkable in the lower orders of the human species in this great city, with all its evil and degrading consequences, successfully combatted and averted."

success, and the firmest determination to prosecute the design with zeal and activity.

On the evening of the 4th of December, the committee met at the committee room of the Royal Humane Society, still generously opened for its reception, where were present Benjamin Biggs, Esq. George By, Esq. Henry Brandon, Esq. and Dr. Davis. A draft of the first report of the rules and resolutions was then read and considered, when, certain amendments were made, and the whole agreed to be taken into final consideration at the next committee meeting on Monday the 11th, at the same place; on which day the above named members being present, and Benjamin Biggs, Esq. in the chair, the papers as altered were read, agreed to, and finally adopted for recommendation to the general meeting.

The committee having thus pursued and concluded its labours with diligence and effect, the general meeting, numerous and highly respectable, was convened at the London Coffee House, on December 14th, 1815, when Mr. Sheriff Bell accepted an unanimous call to the chair,

supported by his brother sheriff Mr. Alderman Thorp, accompanied by all the members of the original meeting, and a number of other individuals, alike distinguished for their benevolence and respectability.

The report of the committee was now read. It urged in this early stage of the business, the propriety of this institution emanating to the world, under the highest patronage that could be obtained, and suggested the expediency of appointing a deputation to wait previously upon as many of those benevolent and distinguished personages, long conspicuous in promoting objects of charity, as could be conveniently called upon. It was also proposed for a deputation to pay its respects to the then lord mayor, Matthew Wood, Esq., Ald. and to request the favour of his countenance, and attendance as chief magistrate of the city, at the public meeting.

Adverting to the peculiar claims of the Institution, the committee expressed its hopes, that very considerable support might also be derived from the exertions of the ladies whose influence in society is deservedly great, and whose province

it particularly is to contribute to the health and comfort of the infant race. It strongly urged that patronesses should be selected, in the prospect that a liberal and spirited example set by them might be successfully imitated by other generous individuals of the fair sex.

Hitherto, no public expenditure had been incurred. In arranging for the opening of the establishment, the committee advised that the strictest pecuniary circumspection should be adopted, and that business should commence on a small and limited scale: but, in order to meet the current expences of public meetings and publications, and also, with a view to judge of the near or distant prospect of carrying the designs of the establishment into execution, it was proposed that a subscription should now be instantly set on foot.

It was suggested, in further aid of the intended fund, and *as a private measure*, distinct from public proceedings, that every friend to the institution should be invited personally, to apply to such persons, as his habits of friendship might allow, for immediate subscriptions and future

patronage: in addition to which, it was likewise recommended, *as a public step*, that a circular letter explanatory of the objects in view, should be addressed to the heads of public charities, to the rectors and churchwardens of every parish in the metropolis, and to the leading and principal inhabitants of different districts, previous to a personal canvas for supporters.

Even in this early stage of the financial arrangements, it was judiciously proposed, in order to render the institution ultimately successful, and to place it on a solid basis, that a permanent or sinking fund should be formed as soon as possible. To effect this, it was suggested that all the benefactions of life directors, and life governors, should be funded, the yearly interest only of which should be considered as applicable to the current expenditure. Upon the same principle, all balances at the end of the year were to be added to the general fund. By this plan an encouragement would be held out to individuals to become life directors, and life governors, instead of annual subscribers.

It appeared from this report that the lowest

annual expenditure for which the institution could be opened, even upon the smallest scale, and that too with the utmost economy, must exceed 300*l.* of which 40*l.* only were set apart for the actual purchase of medicines, estimated to be fully sufficient for twelve or even fifteen hundred infant patients—a calculation, in this latter respect, found since to be correct, the drugs having scarcely exceeded that amount annually for 2000 patients.

Influenced by this estimate, the committee, though anxious to urge a commencement as early as possible, was still of opinion that it would be imprudent to begin business until the annual subscriptions should amount to at least 200*l.* per annum : to further which happy event, the necessity of the most active exertions for procuring new subscribers, was strongly pressed as the receipts from that source would, in this first instance, be the only available sums for defraying the annual expenditure.

The committee next pointed out the expediency of selecting a public and central spot for apartments for the institution, of convenient access for the poor. The vicinity of St. Paul's,

was suggested where the institution might commence its labours. But it was not intended nevertheless to confine its operations to that spot, for it was expressly stated, that however much it might be, and was the wish of the friends of the Institution to render it extensively useful by adopting stations for conducting the business, yet, in the judgment of the committee, it was prudent, for a time, and until the probable extent of funds could be ascertained, to look only “*to the Establishment of a Parent Institution in the Centre of the Metropolis.*”

The report concluded with recommending the election of a treasurer, collector and secretary, protempore ; suggesting likewise the propriety of appointing a new committee, for further purposes, as the powers of this would now cease, and also presenting a form of advertisement for convening a public meeting to carry into effect the recommendations, as then submitted, in case of their approval.

The whole of this report, with its accompanying papers, met with the unanimous approval of the first general meeting, which next proceeded to form a provincial committee whose duty it should

be to organize an outline of a plan to be submitted to the intended public meeting. But as this is a material feature in the early history of the Institution, we feel ourselves bound, in respect and gratitude, to record the names of the benevolent and zealous individuals who composed that committee; as, on their good sense and exertions, so much of the future success of the Institution depended. These were

MR. SHERIFF BELL, KNT.

MR. SHERIFF THORP

BENJAMIN HAWES, ESQ.

SAMUEL W. SWEET, ESQ.

THOMAS FARRAR, ESQ.

HENRY FARRAR, ESQ.

JOHN BARKER, ESQ.

MATTHIAS LUCAS, ESQ.

JOHN LUCAS, ESQ.

GEORGE BY, ESQ.

SAMUEL ROBINSON, ESQ.

J. H. GRIFFITH, ESQ.

HENRY BRANDON, ESQ.

JOHN A. GILLHAM, ESQ.

WILLIAM DRIVER, ESQ.

CHARLES BARCLAY, ESQ.

THOMAS HAWES, ESQ.

R. VANDOME, ESQ.

HENRY CUNDELL, ESQ.

GEORGE FRED. DAVIS, ESQ.

JOHN THACKARAY, ESQ.

THOMAS MARSHALL, ESQ.

JOSEPH BARBER, ESQ.

GEORGE GIMBER, ESQ.

BENJAMIN G. DAVIS, ESQ.

ROBERT CURREY, ESQ.

WM. MARSHALL, ESQ.

SAMUEL TIPPER, ESQ.

AUGUST A. FRY, ESQ.

BENJAMIN BIGGS, ESQ.

TIMOTHY H. DAVIS, ESQ.

JOHN ABBOTT, ESQ.

J. W. REEVE, ESQ.

J. COWIE, ESQ.

DANIEL GUILLEMARD, ESQ.

THOMAS COURTNEY, ESQ.

And the medical founder DR. J. B. DAVIS, to  
which list were afterwards added,

KNIGHT SPENCER, ESQ.

ROBERT HEDGER, ESQ.

J. W. REEVES, ESQ.

C. S. DUDLEY, ESQ.

SKR. TURNER, ESQ.

SAMUEL CHILVER, ESQ.

T. J. PETTIGREW, ESQ.

DR. W. SHEARMAN.

JOHN NICHOLS, ESQ. and

THOMAS MORRIS, ESQ.

MARTIN TUPPER, ESQ.

JOSEPH ATKINSON, ESQ.

It was further resolved, that five should form a quorum, that the committee should meet once a week, and that the first meeting should be on Wednesday, the 20th December, with power to call a public meeting as soon afterwards as might appear expedient. From a point of delicacy, wishing no longer to intrude upon the generous benevolence of the Royal Humane Society, it was determined, that the committee should thenceforward meet at the London Coffee House—a determination accompanied by a suitable vote of thanks to that society, for their considerate kindness, of which the Founder was requested to be the bearer.

Henry Brandon, Esq. was solicited to act as Secretary, pro tempore; and a subscription was

entered into for defraying sundry incidental expences.

Votes of thanks were passed to the sheriffs: to Sir Thomas Bell for his zealous and able conduct in the chair; and to Mr. Alderman Thorp for his kind attendance and assistance upon the occasion. It was next resolved, that the thanks of the meeting should be given to Dr. J. B. Davis, Senior Physician to the London Dispensary, "for the zeal, ardour, and attention evinced by him towards forwarding the proposed institution, and for his advice and assistance in its formation," which vote was ordered to be published with the advertisement for calling a public meeting, under the direction of the committee.

The importance of those incipient proceedings towards the future welfare and success of the institution, will, we trust, be a sufficient excuse for having gone so far into detail. We now proceed to record, that the first meeting of the new committee took place, William Driver, Esq. in the chair, as appointed; when several most respectable names as life and annual governors were added to the list. The routine business was carried

through, and then the meeting adjourned until the first Wednesday in the ensuing year.

The year 1816, opened under very favourable auspices. The Institution had begun to be known ; and many more individuals of the highest respectability became Annual and Life Subscribers.

At the adjourned meeting of the committee on the 3d of January, 1816, William Driver, Esq. again in the chair, a prospectus was adopted, and copies ordered to be transmitted to the members of the committee, for distribution among their connexions and friends.

The exertions of the committee had now succeeded fully equal to expectation. By the 24th of January, the Life Governors, Annual Directors, and Annual Governors amounted to 107, of whom seven were Governors for Life, five, Annual Directors, and the remainder, Annual Governors. On the suggestion of Dr. Davis and George By, esq. there were added to the committee many other gentlemen, whose names are already recorded in page 49.

The proposition of having recourse to high

patronage, previous to an attempt at public notice, was now about to be acted upon, by a resolution, that affairs had so far advanced as to allow a public meeting to be called, for the purpose of carrying the Institution finally into effect; and the secretary was requested to wait upon the Sheriffs, Bell and Thorp, to beg the favor of their soliciting some branch of the Royal Family to preside at that meeting, at such day and hour as might be most convenient to the Royal Chairman, for that purpose.

At this period, T. J. Pettigrew, Esq. handsomely offered his services, in the surgical cases which might occur at the Dispensary, and also volunteered his best offices with the dukes of Kent and Sussex, in regard to their patronage towards the Institution.

Sir Thomas Bell took the chair at the subsequent meeting of the committee, on the 14th of February, when an advertisement to call a public meeting was determined upon; a copy of which, Sheriffs Bell and Thorp were requested to lay before their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Sussex, and to solicit the honour of their patronage and attendance at the public meeting;

a task, in which these gentlemen engaged with the utmost kindness and alacrity. Sir Thomas Bell, from his intimacy with the duke of Kent, immediately wrote to His Royal Highness, from whom he obtained the following answer.

Kensington Palace, Feb. 16th, 1816.

“ MY DEAR SHERIFF,

I am much delighted with the idea you have suggested, of establishing a Dispensary for the exclusive purpose of administering relief to the Infant Poor; and shall be most happy to see you and your worthy colleague, on the business of it, if agreeable, on Wednesday next, between 11 and 12 o'clock, when we can regulate the day for the public meeting, at which I shall readily preside, particularly as it is among my friends in the city, provided it is not before the third week in March, until which time, I shall be particularly engaged.

Believe me ever to remain, with sincerest friendship and esteem,

My dear Sheriff,

Your's faithfully,

EDWARD.”

A day or two afterwards, Sir Thomas Bell received a note from His Royal Highness, postponing the interview from Wednesday, the 21st of February, to the following day. This, he stated to the committee on that Wednesday, from the chair, and on the ensuing day, the Sheriffs having attended at Kensington Palace, His Royal Highness in the most condescending manner, promised to preside at a meeting on some day in the month of April.

So anxious indeed was the Royal Duke to obtain every information respecting the proposed establishment, that, on the 27th of February, he directed the Rev. Dr. Collyer to wait upon him the next day, accompanied by Dr. J. B. Davis and Mr. Gillham. This meeting took place, as commanded, when His Royal Highness, after the most judicious enquiries, again pledged himself warmly to patronize the institution, and to preside at the public meeting.

At the committee held that evening, the 28th of February, at the London Coffee House, Dr. Davis stated this assurance; and Mr. Pettigrew further reported that he had seen His Royal

Highness the Duke of Sussex, a few days before, and having fully explained the objects of the Institution to him, that that benevolent Prince had, in consequence, expressed a wish to patronize it, and to mark his approbation by attending the public meeting.

The promoters of this Institution had now the most sanguine hopes of being speedily enabled to put their plans into a state of activity ; and accordingly on this day they specifically authorized two gentlemen to look at a house, of which they had heard on St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors Commons, sufficiently central for that purpose, and at a moderate rent. This is recorded, to stamp the active anxiety of the first promoters to commence their operations without any loss of time, and to trust to the benevolence of a liberal and well judging public, for that ultimate support which would justify exertions even beyond the actual state of their funds at that moment.

In furtherance of the grand object of attracting the patronage of the metropolis at large, the next meeting of the committee, which took place on the 13th of March, was sedulously occupied

in confirming their proposed rules, orders, and regulations ; in preparing a form of circular letter to the directors and governors ; and in regulating various papers, among others, a bill to be affixed to the most conspicuous parts of the capital and its vicinity. The secretary was this evening directed to call a *final* meeting of the provisional committee as soon as he should receive intimation that the day of the public meeting was fixed by communication from the Royal Chairman to the Sheriffs.

This communication took place, as was expected, on the 8th of April, when His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent addressed to Sir Thomas Bell, the following note.

Kensington Palace, 8th April, 1816.

“ MY DEAR SHERIFF,

Adverting to the promise I made to you, and to your worthy colleague some time since of presiding on some convenient day, in the present month at a general meeting for following up the plan for establishing a “ Universal Dispensary for treating Diseases in Infancy and Childhood,” as taken into consideration at the

London Coffee House, at which you presided on the 14th of February; I have now to propose that one should be held for the purpose at the City of London Tavern, if perfectly agreeable to you both, on Wednesday the 24th, on which day I am to preside at the Anniversary Dinner of the City Dispensary.

EDWARD."

To Mr. Sheriff Bell.

Sir Thomas Bell having promptly forwarded his note to the secretary, summonses, in pursuance of the resolution of the preceding committee were issued for a committee on the 17th of April, together with circular letters to all the directors and governors of the charity: a day or two after which His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent wrote again to Sir Thomas as follows:

Kensington Palace, 11th April, 1816.

" MY DEAR SHERIFF,

From the multiplicity of public dinners and meetings that I have to attend at this season of the year, it totally escaped my recollection that I had long ago given my word to be present at a charity sermon on the 24th, prior to the dinner, for the City Dispensary: I would there-

fore propose to postpone our meeting to Saturday the 27th, prior to the dinner of the Royal Academy, so that it will only rest with you to time the hour, &c. &c. &c. Believe me to be at all times with friendship and esteem, my dear Sheriff,

Your's faithfully,

EDWARD."

We enter into this specific detail, not only for the illustration of the precise manner in which the establishment was first brought forward to public notice under Royal Patronage, but also to mark the extreme and patriotic attention paid to public opinion upon all occasions by His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, who was indeed truly indefatigable upon all subjects of public charity. We likewise wish to record our grateful recollection of his services, his most considerate kindness at all times, and at none, more so than upon this very occasion; for, although he had already appointed a day for holding the public meeting, he immediately thought of changing it from a regard to the convenience of the gentleman engaged in the plan, though inconvenient to himself. We cannot evince this kindness of

disposition and zeal for the success of the cause, more clearly than by a transcript of a letter from Mr. Pettigrew to Dr. Davis upon this occasion.

Bolt Court, Sunday Morning.

“ DEAR SIR,

Yesterday I had some conversation with the Duke of Kent, relating to the meeting for the Dispensary. As Saturday is a very inconvenient day to mercantile men, His Royal Highness will, with pleasure, preside on the Thursday following (i. e. the 2nd of May), if such alteration be deemed advisable.

I am, dear Sir,

Your's very faithfully,

T. J. PETTIGREW.”

Dr. Davis.

P. S. I have written to Mr. Sheriff Bell.

This very handsome and considerate offer, the gentlemen concerned, did not think it advisable to avail themselves of. Still, its purport was taken into consideration, on the committee night of the 17th of April, Benjamin Hawes, Esq. in the chair, when the above recorded letters were read, accompanied by one from Sir Thomas Bell to the Secretary.

Sessions House, Old Bailey, April 20, 1816.

“DEAR SIR,

I have received a letter from H. R. H. the Duke of Kent, desiring, that the intended meeting may be on Saturday, the 27th instant, instead of the 24th, as there is a charity sermon on that forenoon, which he is to attend. The hour of our meeting I think may be one o'clock, which will be more convenient than a later hour.”

Your's faithfully,

THOMAS BELL.”

To Dr. J. B. Davis.

Saturday the 27th, being now finally adopted by the committee for the meeting, intimation of the same was directed to be given to the governors. It was then proposed and agreed to, that one thousand cards of admission for ladies to attend the public meeting should be prepared; that ten should be sent to each governor; and that the number of cards remaining, should be divided among the primary promoters of the establishment, in order for their distribution to such individuals as might apply for them, in consequence of the public advertisements.

Posting bills to an extensive amount were or-

dered, together with the proper advertisements ; and the committee separated until the morning of the public meeting, when a preparatory committee was held, at the City of London Tavern, Sir Thomas Bell in the chair.

This meeting of the Provisional Committee, to which the names of Drs. Clutterbuck and Ramsbotham had recently been added, was a very full one. It was opened by the worthy and zealous chairman, who stated, that he had received two letters from medical gentlemen, offering their services gratuitously to the institution. The first was from Dr. Shearman, in which he observed, that, feeling it to be the duty of every physician to contribute his personal exertions towards carrying the benevolent intentions of the public into effect, in proportion to his opportunities, and consistently with his professional avocations, he took the liberty of offering his gratuitous services, in case the extent of the proposed establishment should require a second physician ; adding, in the event also that the Governors should not have already received an offer from some one more competent to the task, and on whom they might be disposed to place more implicit and more merited confidence.

In this offer, Dr. Shearman seemed fully aware that the general feeling was to accept of Dr. J. B. Davis's services as physician to the establishment, in the first instance: Dr. Uwins, however, the medical gentleman whose letter was next read, not being aware of this circumstance, at once proffered his gratuitous services as physician; adding, at the same time, that as he was not then aware of any medical or other officers being in expectation of appointments, he hoped that his tender of services would not be construed into any thing like a desire of improper interference.

In addition to this, it was verbally reported by the Secretary, that Drs. Byam Dennison and Ramsbotham had likewise offered themselves as gratuitous Physicians.

These offers were considered, by the gentlemen engaged in the formation of the Institution, as most powerful testimonies of its importance and utility, and as happy omens of its future success. It was, therefore, with redoubled hopes, that they prepared to address the public meeting on the arrival of their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Sussex, which took place

at a quarter before one o'clock; when these active and benevolent Princes entered into the merits of the proposed Institution, in conversation with the gentlemen of the committee, and manifested the most anxious wish to render it every assistance in their power.

It was now understood, that the apartment intended for the public meeting, was crowded with a highly respectable assemblage of ladies and gentlemen, all anxious to join their efficient aid in the present object; namely, *to consider the best means of establishing, in a central part of the metropolis, a Dispensary for the exclusive relief of sick indigent children, with a view to their being promptly supplied, in the origin or progress of disease, with that effectual medical aid and advice, the want of which was then attended with the most fatal consequences among the poor; with the full understanding also, that it was in the contemplation of the promoters of this Institution, if their funds should hereafter enable them to carry their intentions into effect, to establish stations in different parts of the metropolis, that the benefits of their Dispensary might be more rapidly felt by the*

*poor, with the least possible delay or inconvenience in the cases of their children.*

Unwilling to detain the company, the Royal Patrons now expressed their readiness to enter upon the business of the day ; and, accordingly, soon after one o'clock their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Sussex, accompanied by Sheriffs Bell and Thorp and a number of medical and philanthropic characters, entered the room, which from an early hour was thronged by ladies of rank and respectability, who were eager to lend their aid and influence in the promotion of the humane and generous project of the intended *Dispensary*.

The chair was taken amidst great applause by his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, who addressed the meeting, and observed, with regret, that the multiplicity of his avocations had prevented him from acquiring that information he should have wished, relative to the business which they were assembled to promote. He was, however, most strongly impressed with the importance of the subject, and with the imperative necessity of adopting some effectual means to

prevent or correct the progress of disease, which unhappily, through a variety of causes, was permitted to make such ravages among the poorer classes of society.—“*Hear, hear.*”—The formation of an establishment like the present, would also have an effect *beyond that of a tender of relief* to the *afflicted* children of the poor—it might give opportunities of ascertaining, perhaps with *more accuracy* than was at present practicable—the nature and symptoms of particular diseases among children, which might, through other means, be more satisfactorily accounted for than they were at present. For these considerations, he would recommend the plan of an *Universal Dispensary for Children* to the meeting, at the same time leaving the more effectual task of demonstrating its numerous advantages to the medical gentlemen who surrounded him, whose talents and experience much better qualified them for the task of enumerating and elucidating those points, with which they were necessarily more conversant than he could pretend to be.

Dr. John Bunnell Davis then rose to propose the first resolution, prefacing his motion by paying a just tribute to the illustrious Princes who honoured

the company with their presence; and to the ladies, whose crowded attendance bespoke the deep interest they felt in the great objects of the meeting. He then entered into a comprehensive view, first, of the moral effects which, were likely to be the result of the establishment of a Dispensary for the children of the poor; of the influence which such an institution must necessarily produce on the health of the growing and adult population of the country; the diminution of deaths which it must eventually produce in the bills of mortality; and of the benefits, which, in point of comfort as well as health, society must inevitably derive from its establishment and success. The mover next adverted to the terrible mortality which prevailed among the infant children of this great metropolis. It was a positive fact, deducible from authentic *data*, that of the *offspring of the lower classes here, one-fourth died under their second year; one-third under their fifth; and nearly one-half under their tenth*; with a large proportion also of children through all the different classes of society. This proportion exceeded that of any other large capital in Europe. Now to what was it attributable? Did it proceed from moral, physical, or political causes? These could

hardly be sufficient to account for it; for those causes did not strongly operate upon the destinies of mankind before the tenth year. Were the inhabitants of Paris, Berlin, or Vienna, more judicious or scientific in rearing their children than those of London? Was their local situation more advantageous and more wholesome? He believed not. Then to what was the difference to be traced? Perhaps in some degree to that shocking system of dram drinking among the poor which, by weakening the health of parents, carried its deleterious ingredients into the constitutions of their children, producing therein that diseased state of organization which was the parent of almost every disorder. Besides this cause, the mover assigned the want of good air, diet, and exercise which the children of the poor were almost from their birth deprived of, and also numerous pernicious practices which fell under the daily cognizance of physicians, not the least of which were the too extensive practice of putting children out to wet-nurse—then the inadequacy of existing medical establishments, from the impossibility of directing their assistance exclusively to the infant branch of society—the errors and fatal prejudices of parents, and the obscurity of the dis-

orders of children. To remove or ameliorate those evils, it would be necessary to counteract the deleterious effects of physical causes, on the tender economy of infants *before* disease had taken place—to encourage parents to seek timely aid *after* it had made its appearance, by offering them the easiest access to assistance, in order that the fatal effects of delay might be completely obviated.—(*Hear, hear.*)—It might also be expedient to disseminate instructions among the poor, as a guide to the domestic management of their children's health—to give them useful hints, as to the prevention and treatment of disease—and to attempt to make the treatment of the diseases of children a separate branch of public medicine. Surely the establishment of such a system would be making, at least, one step to the diminution of mortality among children, as well as towards averting from them the evils consequent upon the moral depravity of their parents. Such were the fundamental reasons he had to advance in favour of an *Universal Dispensary for Children.*—(*Hear.*)—He then touched upon the various improvements which had of late years taken place, in the mode of managing children's diseases. The works of Smith, Armstrong, Clarke,

Underwood, and others, had been mainly instrumental in effecting this salutary change; and an establishment of this kind would open an abundant field for still further improvement. There were the strongest assurances that medical gentlemen, of great professional eminence, would lend every aid in giving full effect to the great objects of the Dispensary. It was in vain to hope, that private aid could accomplish this desirable end; it could only be done by public co-operation.—(*Hear.*)—Besides the numerous advantages that would result from the consummation of the proposed system, the mover adverted to the prospect it would afford of averting the frequency of consumptive complaints, by ultimately arriving at a better mode of treating scrophula. He again dwelt upon the practice of wet nursing, and said, that in cases of immediate danger, and in some few other cases only a nurse ought to be permitted to perform the functions of maternity; and concluded by making a strong appeal to the ladies present, who, from their better knowledge of the wants, sufferings, and distresses of infants, were more calculated to feel the necessity of affording them aid and comfort than others, and whose more immediate

province it was to attend to their earlier years. He then proposed the first resolution ;

“ That it appears to this meeting, that the British metropolis has long felt the want of a medical establishment, which, by exclusively directing its efforts to the Prevention and Cure of Diseases among the Children of the Poor, may tend to diminish the number of premature deaths which annually occur ; it being a fact, that a very large number of those who are born in London, die before they attain their fifth year, from a want of that prompt and particular medical aid which such an Institution would afford.”

Mr. Sheriff Bell seconded the motion, and concurred in the general view which the mover had taken of this important subject.

The Resolution was then put from the Chair, and, as well as those which followed it, unanimously carried.

Mr. Pettigrew proposed the second resolution, “ That considering the impossibility of a select

treatment of the Diseases of Children, in the excellent existing Institutions, this meeting is of opinion, that an *Universal Dispensary for Sick Indigent Children*, should be established in a central part of the metropolis."

In support of this resolution he said, that the success of their plan would erect a monument to the character of the supporters of it, far more solid and durable in its construction, than the monuments and statues which celebrated the renown of the ancients.

Mr. Sheriff Thorp seconded this resolution, and united his opinion with that of his worthy colleague in favour of the importance of such a Dispensary.

Mr. Gillham proposed the third resolution, which was seconded by the Rev. Dr. Collyer, in an animated appeal to the feelings of the Meeting. After adverting to the utility of adding, on a future day, stations to the Institution, he proposed, "That the Dispensary may open an additional field for the culture of medical science in the peculiar treatment of Diseases in Children."

Benjamin Hawes, Esq. in proposing the fourth resolution, dwelt on the fatal effects to which the poor were exposed, from the operation of ignorant quacks, when they sought medical relief for their children; and was confident of the want of such an Institution, and of the advantages which the poor would derive from it.

Samuel Tipper, Esq. now seconded this resolution, "That provision be made in this Dispensary for affording advice to Children, without recommendation, in cases where immediate relief is required, in order that dangerous disorders may be treated without delay."

The Duke of Kent here took occasion to read an extract from a letter which he had received from Dr. Yeates, physician to that philanthropic and most excellent nobleman, the Duke of Bedford. The extract consisted of some excellent suggestions, for the prevention of deception in the mode of giving relief to the poor, and of his entire approbation of such a charity. His Royal Highness placed the letter at the disposal of the committee.

It was then resolved, on the motion of William Marshall, Esq. seconded by Benjamin Biggs, Esq. "That the Rules, Orders, and Regulations, as now read, be adopted ;" after which the following resolution passed.

On the motion of Dr. Clutterbuck, seconded by Alexander Ross, Esq. "That a general meeting of the Directors and Governors be called on Monday, the 20th of May, at eleven o'clock, at the City of London Tavern, for the election of a committee and officers."

It was next resolved, on the motion of his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, seconded by his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, "That the thanks of this meeting be voted to the ladies here present on this occasion."

The Duke of Sussex prefaced his motion of thanks to the Ladies, by a handsome compliment for the tender cares with which they nurture and solace the infant order of the creation. He took that opportunity of suggesting, that all persons whose children received relief from the Dispensary, should be obliged to have their children

vaccinated, unless they had previously suffered them to undergo the operation of that excellent and salutary antidote to small-pox.

The next resolution was on the motion of the Rev. Dr. Collyer, seconded by Mr. Sheriff Bell, "That the most grateful thanks of this meeting be presented to their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and of Sussex, for their gracious condescension in attending the same, and in patronizing this Institution."

The Rev. Dr. Collyer prefaced his motion of thanks to their Royal Highnesses, by a just and well-directed tribute to their zeal and exertions in the cause of universal charity.

Their Royal Highnesses, in returning thanks, assured the meeting of their sincere disposition to promote, by all the means in their power, the best interests of the establishment.

These amiable Princes, uninfluenced by the fatigue and exertions necessary for a meeting so crowded and prolonged, continued to act up to their promises with the utmost affability and spirit;

and it was now resolved, on the motion of his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, seconded by his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, "That the thanks of this meeting be given to Messrs. the Sheriffs Bell and Thorp, for their cordial co-operation in establishing this Institution."

After so just a tribute to the praiseworthy exertions of those gentlemen, indefatigable, notwithstanding the urgent calls of their important office, it was handsomely and considerately proposed to the meeting, on the motion of Samuel W. Sweet, Esq. seconded by William Harvey, Esq. "That the sincere thanks of this meeting be given to Dr. J. B. Davis, Senior Physician to the London Dispensary, for the zeal he has displayed in directing the attention of the public to the necessity of this Institution, and that he be requested to continue his exertions for carrying the same into effect."

With a similar feeling of friendly attention, it was resolved, on the motion of W. Reeves, Esq. seconded by Dr. Shearman, That the thanks of this meeting be given to Henry Brandon, Esq. Honorary Secretary, for his zealous, active, and gratuitous services to this Institution."

It was now understood to be the general and unanimous wish of the public meeting, previous to separation, that they should have an opportunity of marking their sense of the very benevolent conduct of the individuals, who had hitherto taken so active a part in the establishment and promotion of an Institution, of such great importance to the public; and, accordingly, in consonance with this, and with the same feeling on the part of all the early promoters of the plan, it was resolved, on the motion of the Rev. Dr. Collyer, seconded by Dr. Clutterbuck, "That the thanks of this meeting be given to the gentlemen composing the present committee; that they be requested to continue their exertions until the new committee be elected; and that they be empowered to examine into the qualifications of persons, who may offer themselves as candidates for the various situations required by the establishment."

In this stage of the business of the day, the Lord mayor, Mr. Alderman Wood, entered the room, and was compulsorily obliged by the Duke of Kent to supersede him in that chair, which, His Royal Highness condescendingly observed, he

had but *pro tempore* filled in his Lordship's absence.

The Lord mayor expressed his regret at being forced into a chair, which had been so much better filled by his Royal Predecessor. He also begged leave to state to the meeting, that the official duties of his office had detained him until that late hour—(three o'clock.)—He was glad of this in one respect, for it afforded the meeting the honour and pleasure of having the chair much better filled by the Illustrious Individual that had just quitted it. Indeed, his lordship was rejoiced in another respect, for, on looking into the paper of Resolutions, he found he had just come in time to mention a circumstance, which, had his Royal Highness continued to preside, might not have been noticed. His lordship, in expressing the sense which he, in common with his fellow-citizens, entertained of the pre-eminent benefit they derived from the talents and assistance of the Royal Personages then present, took occasion to inform the meeting (though perhaps they were already aware of it) that the city had, within that week, ordered that its freedom should be presented to their Royal

Highnesses, not, indeed, in boxes of gold, but in boxes made out of sturdy heart of British oak, the proper mode of conveying their true sense of the services they, in common with the public, derived from the honest and truly British hearts, which prompted those Illustrious Personages to co-operate in the cause of moral and religious improvement, no matter in what quarter it originated.—(*Great and continued applause.*)

The Duke of Kent expressed his warmest thanks for the honour done him by the City, and begged to assure his fellow-citizens—as he now understood he had the honour of being one of them—(*Great applause*)—that he should be ever ready to co-operate with them for the public good, in conjunction with his worthy friend the Lord mayor, whose official rank in the City must always give him seniority within its precincts, except in the presence of the King; it would not therefore become him, or any of the sons of his Majesty, to assume a station to which they were not entitled.—(*Applause.*)

The Duke of Sussex participated in the sentiments of his Illustrious Brother on this occasion.

The next resolution was, on the motion of Mr. Sheriff Bell, seconded by Mr. Sheriff Thorp, "That the most grateful thanks of this meeting be presented to his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, for his gracious condescension in presiding at this meeting."

Immediately after this it was resolved, on the motion of His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, seconded by the Duke of Sussex, "That the Lord Mayor of the City of London be, in right of his office, President of this Institution."

Thanks to his lordship were also coupled with the vote. Many persons then became directors and governors; the Institution was now established, and a considerable sum of money collected for its uses. The Dukes of Kent and Sussex put down their names for 20 guineās each; the Lord Mayor for 10 guineas; and a number of small sums followed.

The meeting broke up at five o'clock, after a day of the utmost harmony and benevolence. The hearts of all were filled with gratitude and loyal affection for the condescension with which

these amiable Princes of the Blood Royal had mixed in these popular proceedings, shewing themselves both as the first citizens of a free state, united even in personal and familiar friendship with several members of the meeting; yet, nobly preserving their rank and dignity without permitting them to be felt oppressive, or to interfere with that self-confidence, which every person present ought to have experienced on such an occasion.

The circumstance of His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent so politely yielding the chair to the Lord Mayor, of course prevented the royal signature from appearing at the foot of the Resolutions; they were signed, therefore, by his Lordship, and counter-signed by the Honorary Secretary.

We may now hail this epoch as the happy establishment of the “*Universal Dispensary for Children*,” upon a footing of patronage and liberal support, that could not fail of success; though still requiring that close and persevering attention, which it has invariably received from the unwearied exertions of the benevolent individuals engaged in its superintendence and management.

To find language to convey in adequate terms the praise due to the generous Founders of this Institution, would be difficult. For exertion, perseverance and unanimity—no society of individuals was ever more distinguished. A sacrifice of private pleasure to public good has at all times been made. No obstacle has dismayed. Nothing has been too great to attempt. Actuated by one common wish to succeed, they have never ceased to struggle for the stability, and for the credit of the Institution. If the charity should hereafter flourish, and be the nursery and the shield of our infant poor—their's be the glory—and the praise!!

## PROGRESS AND PROCEEDINGS

FROM THE

### *ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INSTITUTION,*

To December, 1816.

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WE now proceed to the first meeting of the prolonged provisional committee, continued in its functions by the general meeting, which took place on the 29th of April; when a mark of attention was paid to the individual who had dedicated his years to the formation of the Institution, and still devoted his time to watch sedulously over its infant state. This was in a resolution, "That this committee do recommend that Dr. J. B. Davis be admitted to all the privileges of the Institution; that he be deemed efficient to sit on any, and all committees, and that he be placed at the head of the medical department."

This point being settled it became a matter of serious moment to fill up the medical list in all its departments ; but now its greatest difficulty really was, not how to find individuals qualified and willing to undertake the various offices of the Institution, but how to select from the voluntary and gratuitous offers that were crowding in upon the committee, all boasting of rank in the profession, of medical celebrity, and of the first respectability in private life.

In addition to the four offers already sent in on the morning of the public meeting, several others were laid before the committee.

The first letter was from Mr. Gillham, in which he observed that having enjoyed for many years the confidence and friendship “ of the projector of the humane design” then before them, he had, in the first place, felt it his duty, and even his privilege to address his particular and much respected friend Dr. Jenner, upon the subject, from whom he had received the most favourable assurance of support ; besides which, he had no doubt of obtaining the powerful in-

terest of the Baring family in aid of the Institution. He added that the indefatigable exertions of the committee, in bringing this highly important cause to perfection, and extensive public utility, excited his warmest admiration, and a desire also to throw his mite into this treasury for suffering humanity, as well as to exert whatever interest he might possess with any man of public rank and character, and with private friends to aid its benevolent objects.

Mr. Gillham then observed that, although the principal part of the diseases of children were within the province of the physician; yet, there were many which required surgical assistance. Impressed with that idea, he begged leave to tender his services in that department of the Institution, whenever they could be usefully directed.\*

He concluded by an intimation of his inten-

\* The qualifications of Mr. Gillham for such an undertaking being known, they scarcely require notice in this place; still we may be allowed to mention part of the claims which he put in as entitling him to the confidence of the committee upon this occasion. He had stepped into the public exercise of his

tions to further the designs of the Institution by becoming a Life Governor.

A letter was next read from Dr. B. Dennison to Mr. Sheriff Bell, in which he repeated the offer verbally announced through the secretary, on the morning of the public meeting. He further remarked that as the diseases of children, connected with those of midwifery, had been peculiarly a subject of his attention and practice for several years, he should be happy to offer his services, either as one of the Physicians, or as Physican to it.

The next communication was from Mr. T. J. Pettigrew, who had been a coadjutor from the commencement. This letter stated that from the

profession in an extended voyage to the South Seas and China; after which he had been much entrusted with the care of the children of the Coldstream regiment of Guards in almost every climate during four campaigns. At the period in question he had been settled permanently as a practitioner for thirteen years, during which time the charge of 20,000 children, under the vaccine disease, had devolved upon him, in addition to his general and very extensive practice as a surgeon, apothecary, and accoucheur,

resolutions adopted at the general meeting he conceived that evening to be the proper period at which to offer his services as surgeon, solely, or as one of the surgeons, if more than one were necessary, and thus to give his best assistance towards carrying the benevolent intentions of the governors into effect.

The offer for an apothecary was next read, from Mr. Field, who had indeed expressed his intentions of being a candidate for that situation from the very first moment, that this Institution had attracted public attention.\* He urged that if appointed one of the medical officers, it would be his endeavour by the strictest economy, by an adherence to method, and by a diligent discharge of all the other duties of the office, to aid in giving effect to the benevolent purposes of the charitable founders of the Institution, and, as far as in his power, to contribute to its permanence and success. He concluded with the assurance that such were his disinterested wishes for the com-

\* Mr. Field's qualifications consisted in seventeen years study and practice of medicine and surgery, during a part of which time he had extensively visited the sick poor of several parishes under his care.

plete prosperity of the undertaking, that no efforts on his part should be wanting to induce his friends and connexions to rank themselves among its early subscribers.

The collectorship was also applied for by Mr. Sharp\*, who expressed his readiness to produce numerous testimonials of his eligibility, together with ample security for any trust that might be reposed in him.

Another candidate appeared for the collectorship, in Mr. Casborne, collector to the Royal Humane Society. This application contained also the usual testimonials, with an offer of sureties, to be bound with him in the discharge of the trust. It was then officially reported by the secretary that Dr. Ramsbotham had called upon him several times and offered his gratuitous services to the Dispensary.

\* Mr. Sharp's qualifications were very satisfactory; besides which it was stated that his connexions were extensive and respectable, that he was well acquainted with the metropolis and its environs; and that he had been for the preceding six years employed as collector to the London Bridge Water Work Association.

The committee was next occupied by the important consideration of the election of Vice-Presidents; when it was resolved that the Secretary should write to His Grace the Duke Somerset in the name of the committee, requesting that he would accept of that office; after which Messrs. Biggs and Gillham, and Dr. Davis were appointed to wait on Sir Thomas Baring, Bart. M.P. Sir Walter Farquhar, Bart. M.D.; Charles Calvert, Esq. M.P. William Mellish, Esq. M.P. George Byng, Esq. M.P. and the Reverend Dr. Collyer, to solicit the favour of their also becoming Vice-Presidents of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*.

To the Vice-Presidents list were added Mr. Sheriff, now Sir Thomas Bell, Knt. and sheriff; John Thomas Thorp, Esq. sheriff; and Charles Barclay, Esq. M.P.

A determination next took place that the Establishment, in its then state of infancy, should consist of one physician, two surgeons, an apothecary, and a collector; the qualifications for which offices were agreed upon, but left open for a future committee to adopt and confirm: and

the Founder being requested to look out for a suitable station for the commencement of business, the committee adjourned

At the ensuing meeting on the 3rd of May, it was intimated that the office of Vice-president had been accepted by the Sheriffs, by Charles Barclay, Esq. M.P. Charles Calvert, Esq. M.P. and by the Rev. Dr. Collyer ; after which a resolution was agreed upon by the committee, forming a new epoch in their proceedings. But previous to our entering upon this, it is first incumbent to offer our tributary acknowledgments to those gentlemen, who so promptly consented to give a head and character to the Institution, by becoming Vice-presidents, and as prominent supporters, establishing a central point and pivot, around which all future operations might, and did proceed with vigour and effect.

The resolution had for its purport, that it was highly adviseable that Dr. Davis, (in the event of his being appointed physician to the charity—an event which the committee felt justified in anticipating) from the unanimous voice of the public meeting held on the 27th of

April, in voting him their thanks, and requesting the continuance of his exertions for the benefit of the Dispensary), should be empowered to call to his aid, an assistant physician, or physicians, (with the approbation of the committee) in case of his finding his own exertions insufficient to discharge the arduous duties of his office.

Up to this period, the Founder had made careful enquiries as to the house situated No. 5, St. Andrew's Hill, and having reported that it seemed suited for the appropriate purposes, he and Mr. Biggs were requested to take the necessary steps in order to come to a final agreement in regard to it.

The other business of the meeting consisted in directing the secretary to write to the various candidates, to send in their testimonials; in fixing the apothecary's salary at 50*l.* per annum, with the upper part of the Dispensary for his dwelling, free of cost, and a further sum of 25*l.* per annum for all incidental expences; in reading and confirming the qualifications for physicians and surgeons,\* and in perusing the rules drawn up for

\* See qualifications under the head of "Rules," &c.

the "Domestic Management of Children," in order to the preservation of their health, which were presented by the Founder for the use of the Institution, and ordered to be printed under his direction.

The Rev. Dr. Collyer, as V. P. took the chair at the ensuing meeting of the 15th of May, when the previous proceedings were confirmed; the secession of Mr. Sharp from the list of candidates for Collector received; and Samuel Tipper, Esq. and J. H. Griffith, Esq. appointed auditors to examine the Treasurer's accounts, antecedent to their being laid before a general meeting, which was fixed for the 20th.

The committee next proceeded to read the qualifications of Dr. William Shearman, which were deemed fully sufficient, in case of further assistance being deemed necessary, and his becoming a candidate; after which, the various qualifications of Dr. J. B. Davis, as Physician, of J. A. Gillham, and T. J. Pettigrew, Esqrs. as Surgeons, and of Messrs. Field and Casborne, as Apothecary and Collector were read, and deemed highly satisfactory; when they were declared

and admitted eligible candidates by the committee to fill the different offices of the Dispensary.

On this occasion a very obliging letter was read to the Committee, from the present Duke of Marlborough, then Marquis of Blandford.

Hanover Square, May 17, 1816.

“ GENTLEMEN,

I am just going out of town ; but on my return, in about a week, I shall be most happy to receive your secretary, to confer with him on the object of your Institution.

— BLANDFORD.

If my accepting a Vice-Presidency can in any way promote the interest of the Society, you are perfectly at liberty to use my name.”

In consequence of this very flattering notification, the committee instantly proceeded to recommend his lordship to the next general meeting, as a Vice-President of the Institution ; and next took into consideration the copy of an agreement between the Founder and the proprietor of the house, previously selected as a station for opening the

Dispensary, which was approved of and recommended for adoption to the next general meeting; they likewise suggested a request to Mr. Brandon, to continue his exertions as Honorary Secretary, until the funds of the Charity should enable them to elect one capable of filling that office on a pecuniary establishment.

The general meeting took place on the day appointed, the 20th of May, at the City of London Tavern, and was most numerous and respectably attended. It proceeded no further, however, than to the election of a monthly committee for the year ensuing; and adjourned to the 30th of May, when a general meeting was directed to be called for the election of officers and other general purposes.

On the day, however, previous to this general meeting, the committee assembled, when a report\* defining the principal duties of all the proposed officers was read and agreed to, and recommended to the meeting for adoption. The testimonials which were given in by the various can-

\* See definition of duties in Rules.

didates to be reported to the general meeting were also read ; after which the committee resolved, that the offers made by Dr. Dennison, Dr. Ramsbotham, and Dr. Uwins, of their gratuitous services as physicians, should be recorded on the minutes of the Institution ; and having read the agreement respecting the house, approved of the same, and directed the necessary steps to be taken for its execution.

The whole of these proceedings were approved of by the adjourned general meeting of the 30th of May. On that day Mr. Sheriff Bell, who made an obliging offer of his services, was elected Treasurer ; Dr. Davis\*, physician ; T. J. Pettigrew,

\* Letter published by the Founder on his election.

*To their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Sussex, Patrons, the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, President, the Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Governors, and Governesses of the Universal Dispensary for Children.*

May it please your Royal Highnesses,

My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It has never occurred to me to perform a more gratifying duty than, at the final arrangements for opening your Institution, so honourable to humanity, to return you my sincere and grateful acknowledgments for the distinction which you have conferred upon me

and J. A. Gillham, Esqrs. surgeons, and John Wasdell, Esq. Extra Surgeon, with similar duties to those of the other surgeons; but with this understanding that he should not claim any precedence.

by unanimously electing me the physician thereof, and thus placing me at the head of the Medical Department.

Be assured that no exertions shall be spared by me to redeem the pledge you have given to the public of affording *prompt medical relief to the Children of the Poor*, a feature eminently pointing out the useful views and object of the Institution, at length established under your auspices—its importance and necessity, as well as peculiar claims on all classes of the community for support. Whilst I anxiously offer to the original supporters of this, I may say, *National Undertaking*, my humble tribute of gratitude and respect, for the honour of, and in return for their prompt co-operation, for their zealous, spirited and unwearied efforts, I am happy in being able to congratulate the public on the approaching opening of a charity whose object is *exclusively* to promote the separate treatment of diseases in children, and to sustain and preserve the existence of the most helpless and pitiable of our fellow-creatures in the infant state.

I have the honour to be,

May it please your Royal Highnesses,

My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient, humble Servant,

JOHN B. DAVIS.

It was further resolved on the anticipation of Mr. Brandon's resignation of his office, that the secretary in future should receive a salary, in order that he might at all times be at the disposal of the committee and his services reckoned upon at any time without reserve. In the interim Mr. Abbott was requested to act in that capacity until a permanent one should be appointed. The sincerest thanks were then given to H. Brandon, Esq. for his zealous co-operation in promoting the objects of the Institution, and for his valuable services and indefatigable exertions, whilst honorary secretary, in bringing it to maturity." Mr. James Field was elected apothecary; and Mr. H. B. Casborne collector, with a poundage to be settled by the committee.

The meeting adjourned after the usual votes of thanks were given, and an advertisement agreed upon for candidates to fill the office of secretary.

The affairs of the Institution were now so far advanced that at the committee of the 5th of June, directions were issued for fitting up, and repairing the house, No. 5, St. Andrew's Hill, for the purposes of the Dispensary, in order to

afford the necessary accommodation for the immediate reception of patients.

The "Rules for the domestic management of children, in order to the preservation of their health," presented by the Founder, were finally approved, and ordered to be printed for circulation; sundry forms of books for business, registers and letters, were then agreed upon, together with all the items preparatory to a state of medical activity.

A letter was next read from Mr. Sheriff Bell, to the secretary, in which that gentleman very handsomely confirmed his acceptance of the treasurership, repeating at the same time, his anxious wish to promote, in every way in his power, the interest of this Infantine Institution.\*

\* It is material here to record that the importance of this Institution had been already noticed at a distance from the metropolis. From Portsea, in particular, a proposition had been made to form a dispensary for the exclusive treatment of infantine diseases, on a plan as nearly similar to the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, as the difference of circumstances would admit of. On this occasion Dr. J. Johnson of St. George's Square, Portsea, one of the editors of the *Medico Chirurgical Journal*, applied to the Founder for a sketch of the regulations.

On the 12th of June, it was reported to the committee, that the house would be ready for the

“Dr. Davis in reply expressly stated that it was the intention of the directors and governors of the Institution, on a future day, to open stations in different parts of the metropolis, with a view more widely to make known and extend the utility of the parent Institution. For his own part, he was much inclined to encourage the organization of auxiliary establishments in various cities of the kingdom, whenever the authorities and principal inhabitants thereof should manifest a disposition to receive the regulations of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, and to establish dispensaries, as nearly similar to the original, as each city or district would admit of.

He further hinted that, if respectably organized, and sanctioned, there was a probability that the patronage of the *Universal Dispensary for Children* would be offered to them; but he suggested that each county or city must support its own establishment, and that an annual return of the admissions, cures and deaths, would be required by the parent Institution. He also further submitted it to consideration, whether it would not be a preferable mode for the proposed public institution to set an example upon such a principle, in furtherance of the national object contemplated by the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, by proposing to become a branch of the parent Institution, rather than to found a dispensary for children of a purely local nature, without the ulterior object of co-operating in a more general and extended good.”

reception of patients on the 18th; the apothecary was, therefore, requested to take possession on the day preceding that day, in order that patients might be admitted on the 24th of June. From extreme anxiety to hasten the time of reception, and a wish to further, in this respect, the objects of the Institution as much as possible, the Founder had already sent in a variety of drugs and articles for medicinal accommodation; and it was directed that the apothecary, under the superintendence of the physician, should procure such further articles and drugs as might be at first necessary.

Sir James Mc Gregor, and Dr. Robert Bree

\* We record these facts the more pointedly at the present day, inasmuch as they stamp the originality of this Institution over all others, both in the absolute priority of its establishment, and in the universality of its views in regard to the earliest possible extension of its active exertions through the medium of stations, in every district of the metropolis, and even in distant cities of the empire, by auxiliary branches. Far more effectually would it promote the general good, for philanthropists to associate for the purpose of establishing auxiliary Institutions, than for forming Institutions entirely distinct from the parent Establishment. The attention of the public is thus divided.

were proposed as Vice-presidents; and five candidates, Messrs. Rush, Lewin, Baker, Richards, and Gray, were reported as candidates for the office of secretary, on which occasion it was directed that no proposals should be received after the 13th.

The Institution was now rising higher, not only in public, but in royal estimation. About this period, His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent addressed a letter to Sir Thomas Bell, in favour of Mr. Waddell as extra surgeon to the Establishment, in which he also requested that Sir Thomas would state, at the next general meeting of the directors and governors, His Royal Highness's approbation of his own appointment to the office of Patron of the Institution.

The ballot for a new secretary was opened at a general meeting on the 20th of June, when three candidates for the secretaryship only came forward. For Mr. Richards, there were 62 votes, for Mr. Rush 60, and for Mr. Gray 2. The former was of course declared duly elected.

ON THE 24th OF JUNE, 1816, THE UNIVERSAL

DISPENSARY FOR CHILDREN OPENED FOR MEDICAL BUSINESS. The very first day numbers of children were brought for assistance, from the neighbourhood and remote districts—a day which the directors and governors hailed as the consummation of their own exertions, and with the happy anticipation of the complete and final realization of their object. It is impossible not again to pay a tribute of respect and gratitude to the perseverance of the first promoters of this undertaking, whose ardour for its success still remained unabated.

The first committee that met, (on the 24th of June), did not fail, after the ballot for a new secretary, with great justice, to return its sincere thanks to Mr. Abbott, for the indefatigable and valuable services rendered by him to the Institution, and for his kindness in permitting the committees to be held at his house, whilst he filled the office of honorary secretary. It was then resolved that Sir Walter Farquhar, Bart. M.D. should be proposed as Vice-president, in addition to the highly honourable names, which already graced the list. A sub-committee was also formed, consisting of the two ex-honorary secretaries, and

Robert Hedger, Esq. for the purpose of printing and publishing the rules and regulations of the Institution, together with an address, and a list of the subscribers;\* a measure which could not fail to impress the public at large with a high idea of the increasing patronage and encouragement which this infant Institution had already received, and to stimulate the benevolent to its further support.

The committee, in proceeding to financial business on the 29th of July, (the last Monday in the month as now settled for committee nights) determined among other arrangements on the extent of allowance to be made to messengers, and on the poundage to be paid to the collector on all sums of money received by him.

Notwithstanding the unwearied exertions of individuals in procuring Annual and Life Governors, it was still an object of consequence with the managers of the Institution that its objects, and indeed its existence should be made more

\* See Rules, &c. in third division of the work.

publicly known. It was therefore highly gratifying at this moment to the committee to be informed that the Reverend Henry White had most kindly and generously offered to preach a sermon in aid of the good cause, only stipulating that he should have timely notice of the day most agreeable to the committee, and most likely to answer the purposes of the charity.

The committee unanimously passed a vote of thanks, and directed the secretary to communicate the same to the Reverend Henry White by letter, together with an assurance of its being the intention of the committee, to accept of his good offices at an early period, when the precise day should be determined by his own personal convenience.\*

Tunbridge Wells, Kent, Aug. 10, 1816.

*\* The following Letter received by the Founder, from Dr. Yeates. Physician to the Duke of Bedford, was presented and read at this Committee.*

SIR,

Your letter, dated the 2nd inst. I had the pleasure to receive yesterday, being forwarded to me from my house in town to this place, whither I come annually for the season. I shall not, therefore, return to town for the winter, till the first week in November.

The attention of the committee was now taken up with devising plans to extend the public

I have heard (for I have not been present at any of the meetings) that H. R. H. the Duke of Kent had done me the honour of reading at your meeting, the Letter I had taken the liberty to address to His R. H. on the subject of your laudable Institution. I perceive, by your letter, that you have been good enough to send me the Rules and Regulations, which, however, have not been forwarded to me here, I presume, because the gentleman who forwards my letters, found them too heavy for the frank in which your letter came.

I have no doubt I shall derive both satisfaction and information from perusing them; and it will give me much pleasure, if from the very humble and limited means I possess, I can suggest any ideas worthy the consideration of yourself or the Committee.

I beg leave to suggest, without however, meaning to damp the ardour which, in all charitable exertions ought to have no obstacle thrown in its way, that at the existing moment, when the distresses of the country are making extensive calls upon the purses of the wealthy, the season is rather unpropitious for making urgent requests; and that, therefore, to keep the Institution alive in the minds of the public, with the intention, and perhaps declaration, of coming forward for pecuniary aid, under more auspicious circumstances, might probably be considered no unadvisable plan. Another winter, will, I should hope, visit us with less general distress of the people, which, with the return of those who have

knowledge of the Institution, and to secure a further share of public patronage. Accordingly at the meeting of the 30th of September, it was resolved that Dr. Shearman, Mr. Brandon, and the Secretary should form a sub-committee to insert occasionally, in the different periodical publications, paragraphs explanatory of the objects and benefits of the Institution. It was also agreed that an application should be made to the Reverend Isaac Saunders, Rector of St. Anne's, Blackfriars, stating the peculiar benefits resulting to the infant poor of his immediate vicinity from the local situation of the Dispensary, and in the name of the committee to intreat his influence and support in aid of the charity, by preaching a sermon for its benefit, or by granting the use of his pulpit for that purpose. A

in such numbers deserted England, for continental amusement or retrenchment, will offer a more favourable opportunity in applying for pecuniary aid, with better prospect of success: for I am persuaded, that unless the subscriptions are to a *large amount*, upon which to form a broad basis of operations, the Institution will languish in its most beneficial objects.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient and humble servant,

G. D. YEATS.

similar application was likewise determined on to the Reverend Thomas Clare, Rector of St. Bride's Fleet Street, and to Alderman Thorp, M.P. who was solicited to use his influence to procure the parish church of Aldgate without, or some other well attended church, for the purpose of having a sermon preached in aid of the funds of the Institution.

It was then suggested and adopted that a copy of the Rules, Orders and Regulations of the Dispensary, together with a list of the subscribers, should be sent to "THE SOCIETY FOR BETTERING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR," requesting an insertion of such parts thereof, in their next General Report, as might be consistent with the plan of that work.

Directions were likewise given to transmit a copy of the "RULES," and of the "RULES FOR THE DOMESTIC MANAGEMENT OF CHILDREN, in order to the preservation of their health," neatly bound, to each member of the Court of Aldermen, accompanied by a solicitation for each Alderman's influence and aid in support of the Charity.

In order to give it still further publicity, it was

decided that an account of the Institution with a list of officers, should be sent for insertion in the Court Calendar, and other publications of a similar nature.

At a financial committee of the 28th of October, it was settled, that the poundage of 5 per cent. to be paid to the collector, as proposed on the 29th July, should not extend to donations, legacies, or collections at charity sermons.\*

\* The birth-day of the Illustrious Patron of this Institution took place about this period, during his absence from England, on the 2nd of November. It was celebrated at Fishmonger's Hall, at which many of the Directors and Governors of the *Universal Dispensary for Children* were present. As a testimony to his worth, and now alas! to his memory, we beg to insert the following tribute, together with a list of the Benevolent Institutions patronized by his late Royal Highness.

VICE PATRON UNDER HIS MAJESTY

Of the Royal Humane Society, and the British and Foreign  
School Society.

VICE PATRON AND PRESIDENT, UNDER HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS  
THE PRINCE REGENT

Of the Caledonian Asylum.

PATRON.

Of the Royal Society of Musicians.

School for the Indigent Blind.

Friendly Female Society.

On the 6th of November, a half yearly general meeting was held, at which the minutes of the pre-

Institution for the Relief of the Widows and Orphans of Medical Men.

Macclesfield and Stockport Sunday Schools.

Benevolent Society of Saint Patrick.

London Orphan Asylum.

Royal Institution for Educating One Thousand Poor Children.

Philanthropic Harmonists' Institution.

Saint Anne's Society Schools.

General Philanthropic Society, Clerkenwell.

The City, Kent, Eastern, and Finsbury Dispensaries.

Society for the Improvement and Encouragement of Female Servants.

National Benevolent Institution.

Eastern Dispensary Samaritan Society.

And the East London, North East London, Kensington, and Kent Auxiliary Bible Societies.

#### JOINT PATRON

Of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution.

Society of Friends of Foreigners in Distress.

Royal Infirmary for curing Diseases of the Eye.

Guardian Society.

Chelsea Park Chapel Charity Schools.

Dollar Benevolent Society.

Infirmary for Diseases of the Lungs.

ceding committees were confirmed, and a committee and auditors for the ensuing year appointed.

Universal Dispensary for the Diseases of Children.

City of London Truss Society.

British Union Schools, Ratcliff.

And the Camberwell and Peckham Auxiliary Bible Society.

#### PRESIDENT

Of the Society for Delivering Poor Married Women at their own Habitations, instituted 1757.

#### JOINT PRESIDENT

Of the London Corresponding Board of the Incorporated Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge in the Highlands and Islands;  
And the Irish Charitable Society.

#### VICE PRESIDENT.

Of the Covent Garden Theatrical Charitable Fund.

LIFE GOVERNOR, OR HONORARY DIRECTOR

Of the British and Foreign Bible Society.  
Association for the Relief of the Manufacturing and Labouring Poor.

Queen's Lying-in Hospital.

Asylum for Female Orphans.

Literary Fund.

Scottish Hospital and Corporation.

The Society of School Masters.

At this meeting, the Founder took occasion to represent, that a disease, in its popular appellation termed *Influenza*, had appeared with great severity, among the children of the poor, and that it was advisable to apprise the public, especially the lower classes, of its true nature, and the danger to be apprehended from its attack;

Masonic Institution for Clothing and Educating the Sons  
of Indigent and Deceased Free Masons.

Free Masons' Charity for Female Children.

Refuge for the Destitute.

Small Pox Hospital—and Saint George's Hospital.

“The painter's art in glowing tints may trace  
Each manly beauty, and each female grace;  
Recall to Memory's eye the fair,—the brave,  
And bid the pencil triumph o'er the grave:—  
Yet shall this page a brighter glory claim,  
Whose peerless blazon boasts eternal fame!  
These sketches all the latent soul impart,  
Depict the feelings, and unveil the heart:  
To future times the mind's own image give,  
Through endless years in blooming worth to live;  
Here traced by Gratitude, his virtues shine,  
And ROYAL EDWARD lives in every line.

JAMES THOMSON.”

in consequence of which, it was resolved that a notice\* to that effect should be advertised in several of the daily papers, and 500 copies printed off for distribution among the poor.

\* "The important feature of this Institution, *in providing open admission for the Infant Poor in every case of Danger, without encountering the hazard of delay by waiting for a letter of recommendation*, is strikingly exemplified at this season of the year. Numbers of children labouring under the measles, croup, and an inflammatory affection of the lungs, similar to the fatal epidemics of 1800, 1801, 1808, 1814, and 1815, have been snatched from danger, and restored to health, by an early application at the Dispensary. This acute disease of infants, in its popular appellation, termed INFLUENZA, has appeared this season with great severity. Parents should not suffer themselves to be misled by the mildness of its character at first; but, whenever their children are attacked with symptoms of cold, such as sneezing, running at the nose, fever, restlessness, cough, with quick respiration and hoarseness, alternate moaning and crying in their sleep, and excessive thirst, they should instantly apply for medical help. It may be useful to put parents further on their guard, by stating, that this disease is strictly inflammatory, and not unfrequently succeeded by the croup. A disease so severe as this, will, it is hoped, induce the parents of poor children to promptly apply at the Dispensary, in order that a malady, which so rapidly and inevitably puts an end to life, if neglected, be treated in its early stage."

At the next committee, a letter was read from William Smith, Esq. M. P., in reply to an application for his support in favour of the Institution.

“ SIR,

I received your favour respecting the new Dispensary; of the utility of which, I cannot entertain any reasonable doubt, but am really engaged in too many Institutions of a similar nature already, to be desirous of increasing the number; and I must, therefore, decline accepting your polite proposal. The directions respecting the treatment of Children appear to me so very good, that I feel much disposed to print and circulate them, if there be no objection. At the same time, however, I must acknowledge, that they seem calculated rather for those in tolerably easy circumstances, than for the *very poor*; who, as far at least as I see of them, are in little danger of injuring their children by too many clothes or too much food.

I am, Sir, Your's, &c.

WILLIAM SMITH.”

Parndon House, Essex, 1st December, 1816.

To Dr. J. B. Davis.

After deliberating upon this letter, it was resolved, for the purpose of extending the preservative benefits of the Institution to nurseries of a higher class, that Mr. Smith's request should be gratefully complied with; under the stipulation, however, that the Rules printed, at his expence, should be expressly, "by and under the directions of the committee," and that the same should be transmitted to him by the Founder.

The last resolution of the committee, in this first year of the establishment of the Charity was, that the medical and surgical officers should report to the committee any remarkable case that might come under their care.

The close of this year may be regarded as such an important era, that a few extracts from the Bill of Mortality of 1816, deserve insertion, since they may serve as a reference for the future investigation of the benefits resulting from the operation of the *Universal Dispensary for Children* over the metropolis.

It appears then, that the number of children

christened, amounted to 23,581, of whom 12,132 were males, and 11,449 were females.

The numbers which died under two years of age, were 5400, and between two and five, 1960; making a total of 7360.

The precise diseases of which all these children died, cannot be correctly ascertained; but, selecting the diseases most incidental to infancy, we may, after allowing for abortive and still-born, 734, enumerate of Chicken Pox, 1; of Convulsions, 3264; of Cough and Hooping Cough, 666; of Croup, 92; of Measles, 1106; of Small Pox, 655; of Teething, 417; of Thrush, 89; of Worms, 17, making a total of 7041, or a number nearly equal to *one third* of all the children born, and that too under five years of age, or very little more; for the probability is, that the greatest number here enumerated died of those diseases, inasmuch as all the deaths under four years of age, actually amounted to 7360, including the still-born.

We are fully aware that those data are not sufficiently correct to warrant positive reasoning;

still we trust that this general view, especially as compared with future years, will amply bear testimony to the necessity for, and importance of this Institution.

PROGRESS  
AND  
*PROCEEDINGS,*

In 1817.

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The year 1817 opened under promising auspices, and with every prospect of increasing success in the objects of the Institution.

From the report of diseases, during the first six months of its operations, it appears that 904 medical, and 117 surgical patients had been treated, making a total of 1012; of whom 629 had been cured, and 19 were dead. The intentions of the Institution, in regard to the Cow Pox had been so far successful that 47 cases of vaccination had taken place.

It may be remarked that the most numerous class of diseases was that of Epidemical Catarrh, and Cough, then fevers of various descriptions, Diarrhæas and Measles. Nor is it unimportant

here to record that in a "*Cursory Inquiry into some of the principal causes of Infantine mortality*," published about this period by the Founder, it was stated from authentic documents that out of 15,000 street beggars in the metropolis, at that period, there were no less than 9,000 children, a large proportion of whom were cripples and diseased—a fact affording lamentable scope for consideration to the friends of humanity.

At the first monthly meeting of the committee in this year, on the 27th of January, the following letter was presented from Mr. Smith, in answer to the communication of the preceding resolution, in December, 1816.

"SIR,

I am favoured with your's on the 10th instant, conveying the Resolutions of your Board. I readily accept their offer, and will cheerfully be at the expense of having, first, 2 or 300 printed on half sheets of foolscap, which I can disperse by using them as franks to my friends and acquaintances in different parts of the country, often inclosing one or more additional copies.

When printed you will have the goodness to order them to be left with the bill at my house in Park Street.

I am, Sir, &c.

WILLIAM SMITH."

Parndon House, Essex, 19th July, 1817.

To Dr. J. B. Davis.

This is an example which ought to have great weight with the higher orders, who, from fortune and situation have many opportunities, and much influence in the dissemination of useful truths among all classes of society.\*

\* The following compressed view of the objects of the Charity, was likewise ordered by the committee to be printed for circulation, and for the use of the approaching festival.

"To stop the ravages of infantine diseases—to afford ease and relief to the little afflicted sufferer—to diminish the frightful mortality at present existing among the infant poor—to substitute a hardy and vigorous population for a puny and debilitated race—to promote the happiness and ameliorate the state of the rising generation, by improving their health and strengthening their constitutions—to fit them for hereafter sustaining those laborious occupations which form their only patrimony, and constitute their

In the course of this evening the Founder took an opportunity of stating his intention to publish

sole means of subsistence—are the laudable objects of this Institution.

A thorough conviction of the benefits to be derived from an establishment designed exclusively for the treatment of infantine diseases—an ardent wish to supply the deficiency felt in the excellent medical institutions now existing in the metropolis, by affording immediate admission in cases of danger, without the formality of a written recommendation—a sanguine hope that the errors, prejudices, and apathy of the poor, as far as regard their infant offspring, might be removed, and their attention be excited to secure the health and comfort of their helpless infants, by an establishment erected solely for their benefit—were the motives which first gave rise to the formation of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*; nor have the expectations of the founders and promoters of this Institution been disappointed.

Already within the space of eight months have 1189 children been admitted as patients, labouring under all the serious maladies incident to childhood—a fact evincing the readiness with which the poor have embraced the advantages held out to them by this Institution.

Of this number it is gratifying to think that many have been immediately rescued from an untimely grave; many have had the

a "Cursory Inquiry," already alluded to, with a view to assist in ameliorating the state of the

seeds of future suffering and disease eradicated by the timely exertion of professional skill. The prevention of disease is no less desirable than its removal, a point which has hitherto been but little, if at all, regarded by the poor. To attain this object, sets of rules have been framed and circulated amongst them, adapted to the management of infants under the various circumstances of health and incipient disease; a due observance of which cannot fail of removing those errors and ill conceived systems still so prevalent in rearing children, of preventing much sickness and suffering, and diminishing the mortality of the infant poor.

In order to secure a continuance of these numerous benefits—to promote a wider extension of them, an appeal is made to British liberality for a supply of pecuniary means. Were any other motive necessary than that sympathetic feeling for distress, that benevolent desire of alleviating it, which so eminently characterize our countrymen, it might be sought for in the consideration, that by the concentration of medical skill to one precise point, a more accurate knowledge of infantine disease may be acquired, more successful methods of treatment be discovered—an advantage which would be felt in every ramification of society—a blessing only to be duly appreciated by those parents whose hopes and fears have been alternately excited, whilst the fate of a beloved child has yet remained uncertain and undecided.

rising generation, in health, morals and happiness; offering also to attach to it some account of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, which the committee immediately acceded to, on the principle that it could not fail to be of the highest utility to the Institution.

The patronage which the Institution was now

Total number of Patients admitted since the opening, June 24,  
1816, to February 28, 1817, . . . 1189.

Of whom have been cured . . . . 701

Have died . . . . . 22

Are upon the books and under cure 415

Have been inoculated for Cow Pox . 51 — 1189.

The above Institution is supported by Voluntary Contributions.

A Subscription of *One Guinea* annually constitutes a Governor, with the right of having *two patients* on the books at a time: a Subscription of *Two Guineas* annually to have *four patients* on the books at a time, and a *double vote* at all Elections.

Persons giving a benefaction of *Ten Guineas*, or contributing this sum within the year, are Governors for Life, with the privilege of having *four patients* on the books at a time. Persons giving a benefaction of *Twenty Guineas*, or contributing this sum within the year, are Directors, for Life, with the privileges of having an unlimited number of patients on the books at one time.—*Directors* have a *double vote* at all Elections."

receiving from high characters augured the most favourable results. We beg to insert a letter from Sir Walter Farquhar, to the following effect.

“Sir Walter Farquhar presents his compliments to Dr. Davis ; he is very sorry he has not been able to see him, when he has called in Conduit Street. He is an invalid, and has been confined to the house for the last four months ; and it is most probable that he will not be able to go out for several months longer.

He is therefore sorry that it is not in his power to do more than add his name to the list of Vice Presidents of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*. For many years he has avoided, as much as possible, all public Institutions, as he is never in a state of health to be out at night.

He wishes the Institution success, and as it has the honour of their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Sussex’s patronage and protection, there can be no doubt of it.”

Conduit Street,  
Monday, Feb. 10th, 1817.

“ P.S. Sir Walter Farquhar is much obliged to Dr. Davis for his book, and when he comes to this end of the town, will be extremely happy to see him.”

Aware of the benefits which would arise to the Charity, from a Public Festival, as soon in 1817 as such a measure could be resorted to, several of the early promoters of the Institution, volunteered their services as Stewards upon the occasion.

We have great pleasure in recording the very gracious manner, in which His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex was pleased to add his name to the list. At an interview which the Founder had with the Duke at Kensington Palace, H. R. Highness expressed his free consent to serve the office of Steward, and to preside at the intended Festival, a decision which was received by the committee with gratitude and joy.

The names of the Stewards for the first Festival, in 1817, were

H. R. HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF SUSSEX.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH

SIR THOMAS BELL, KNT. V.P. TREASURER.

JOHN ABBOTT, ESQ.

CHARLES BARCLAY, ESQ. M.P.

BENJAMIN BIGGS, ESQ.

JOHN BARKER, ESQ.

GEORGE BREWIS, ESQ.

TIMOTHY HENRY DAVIS, ESQ.

JOHN B. DAVIS, M.D.

GEORGE FREDERICK DAVIS, ESQ.

JOHN FIELD, ESQ.

ROBERT HEDGER, ESQ.

BENJAMIN HAWES, ESQ.

THOMAS MARSHALL, ESQ.

THOMAS JOSEPH PETTIGREW, ESQ.

HENRY RICHARDS, ESQ.

SAMUEL W. SWEET, ESQ.

JOHN THOMAS THORP, ESQ.

JOHN WASDELL, ESQ.

JOHN BROADLEY WILSON, ESQ.

On Wednesday, the 5th of March, the Rev. Alexander Fletcher, A. M. preached an excellent sermon for the benefit of the charity, at the Albion Chapel in Moorfields; after which, at

the First Anniversary Dinner, a numerous and highly respectable meeting of gentlemen in and about the metropolis, took place at the City of London Tavern, Bishopsgate Street, to record the first festival of this admirable Institution, for the exclusive Relief of Sick Indigent Children, in order to their being promptly supplied, in the origin or progress of disease, with that effectual medical aid and advice, the want of which has been hitherto often productive of the most fatal consequences among the infant poor. By five o'clock the room was filled, and in the absence of His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, one of the Patrons, who addressed a letter to the Founder, containing an apology to the Stewards and Visitors for his non-attendance, through indisposition, Charles Barclay, Esq. M.P. one of the Vice-Presidents, was solicited to take the chair.

On this first and most interesting Anniversary, we feel ourselves called upon to enter at some length into the occurrences of the day, as illustrative of the feelings of the gentlemen present, and of the public at large, as well as of the principles and objects of the Institution. Accord-

ingly we shall notice, that after the letter was read by the Chairman, from H. R. Highness the Duke of Sussex, apologizing for his unavoidable absence, and inclosing His Steward's Fine, and the customary toasts and songs, resorted to upon such occasions were given, the toast next in rotation was—" Their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Sussex, the Patrons of the Institution." The health of these Illustrious Personages the Chairman introduced by a very appropriate speech, in the course of which, he took occasion to offer a just and well-directed tribute, to their zeal and exertions in the cause of universal benevolence. Feeling, as he did, lest the Charity should suffer by his attempting to explain its object, and not having contemplated, in the most remote degree, the honour of filling so distinguished a situation among them that day, he must transfer the task, which he must otherwise have undertaken, of stating the views and objects of the Institution, to some gentleman more conversant with its practical results and benefits, and for that purpose begged to propose as a toast—" Success to the Universal Dispensary for Children ;" with a reference to the Founder, for

a more particular statement of its nature and results.

“ Dr. Davis, after passing a merited eulogium on the original supporters of the Charity, and giving a concise history of its origin, entered upon a view of its advantages, importance, and practical results. In the course of this, he stated the great moral effects which were likely to succeed the establishment of this Dispensary for the Children of the Poor, and the influence it must necessarily produce on the health of the growing and adult population of the country. The Doctor observed, that the grand object of the Institution was to attempt the diminution of the mortality which was known to occur among children, and to stop the ravages of infantine diseases—to substitute a hardy and vigorous population, for a puny and debilitated race—to ameliorate the state of the rising generation by improving their health. The want of such an intermediate Medical Charity, and its salutary effects were, he stated, fully substantiated, by the great number of children who had already been relieved since the opening, (24th June, 1816,) no less than

1189 patients having been admitted in the short period of eight months—

Of whom had been cured	-	-	-	-	701
Had died	-	-	-	-	22
Were still upon the books and under cure	-				415
Had been Inoculated for the Cox-pox	-	-			51

Some strong facts were detailed corroborative of the serious and deplorable state of the sick infant poor, for want of an Institution for their exclusive relief. By means of the *Universal Dispensary for Children* they would be shielded from the errors, he might say, the apathy and mismanagement of their parents, and what was of still greater importance, from the fatal consequences of empirical practice, of which they were, in a more remarkable manner than any other class of individuals, the unhappy victims. The Doctor dwelt upon the benefits which, in point of strength, health, comfort, and morals, society would derive from a promulgation of its objects—from an extension of the sphere of its benevolence—adding that it was the prop and foundation of any system for improving the condition of poor children, as he had

evidenced in his “ *Inquiry into some of the principal causes of mortality among Children ;*” and that no plan for educating them—for instructing them in principles of religion and morality could ultimately avail, unless the basis of a sound constitution were previously laid. It was a positive fact, deduced, as has been said from public data, (the annual bills of mortality) that of the offspring of the lower classes in London, one-fourth died under their second year, one-third under their fifth, and nearly one-half under their tenth, and in a great proportion through the different gradations of society. One considerable advantage of the Charity was, that it was of an open and general nature, and had already extended its beneficial influence to most of the parishes in the metropolis and the villages around it, as the Speaker evidenced by a reference to the cases which had been admitted. In the next place, by the concentration of medical skill to one precise point, a more accurate knowledge of infantine disease might be acquired, more successful methods of treatment be discovered—an advantage which would be felt in every ramification of society—a blessing to be most appreciated by those parents whose hopes and fears have

been alternately excited whilst the fate of a beloved child has yet remained uncertain and undecided. But the special claim, the pre-eminence of this Institution, consisted in a feature which provides for the administration of *prompt medical assistance without the formality of a written recommendation, when the case is urgent, immediate help required, and the object necessitous*; the good effects of which had been strikingly observed in the fatal influenza of that winter, and in every variety of acute disease; it being a fact that infantine complaints attack suddenly, and run on to their height with a rapidity and danger unusual to other epochs of life. On this unrivalled advantage he laid great stress, and concluded his observations by an appeal to the feelings and liberality of a numerous and respectable company assembled to encourage an Institution admirably adapted to prevent and correct the progress of disease in children."

W. Smith, Esq. M.P. (for Norwich) then rose, and spoke nearly as follows:—"Gentlemen, I have been solicited by those about me, as one unconnected with the Institution, to propose to

you a health which I am confident will meet with your warmest approbation, I mean that of my honourable friend, your Chairman. Whatever disappointment you might have experienced by the absence of the illustrious Duke, I will venture to predict that the interests of the Charity will not suffer in the hands of his substitute. It is the pride and glory of this country, that the cause of charity has no peculiar patrons ; but, as it was said of Tyre of old, so it may be emphatically repeated of modern England, that her merchants are among the Princes of the land. Whatever opinions may have gone abroad respecting an overgrown population, and that our national resources are inadequate to maintain our our national increase, I am of opinion that the strength of a nation consists in its number of men and women ; that increase of population is not a national evil ; that the prosperity and wealth of a country depend upon the health and energies of its inhabitants ; and that it is an object of the highest importance to the State and to individuals, to encourage and promote the views of this admirable Institution. Let me, therefore, exhort you to increased exertion in furtherance of its liberal design."

The Chairman, in giving “ the health of the Lord Mayor, (as President, *ex-officio*, of the Institution) and the Corporation of the City of London,” “ alluded to the pre-eminent benefits which the public had derived from the zeal and exertions of his Lordship during the last, and this, his second succeeding year, as Chief Magistrate.” This toast was drunk with great applause.

J. T. Thorp, Esq. Alderman and Vice President, one of the late Sheriffs, “ returned thanks in the name of the Lord Mayor and on behalf of the Corporation, of which he had the honour of being a member. He was highly gratified at seeing so numerous a meeting upon the present occasion, and congratulated them on the success of their exertions.”

“ The health of his Grace the Duke of Marlborough and the rest of the Vice Presidents,” was then proposed by Florance Young, Esq. “ who said he entirely concurred in the sentiments which had fallen from every gentleman who had addressed them before him. He warmly advocated the utility and advantage of the Institution, and was much mistaken if it were not in the

hands of those who would bring it to maturity, and enable it to accomplish, to its fullest extent, the objects for which it had been established. He hailed the day which brought the Institution into public notice, and had always been of opinion that an Institution of this nature had long been a *desideratum* in the annals of medicine; for, notwithstanding the many valuable medical charities which this country was proudly pre-eminent in upholding, it was impossible in these to select any one branch of the healing art for study. He rejoiced, in having lived to see this day, and with every wish for the prosperity he then felt for a Dispensary (the Surrey), to which he was locally as well as personally attached, he could not refrain from observing, that an Institution like the one now before them, seemed to him to have been the only one wanting "to fill up the measure of charity." New Institutions must look for support among their annual subscribers, the old ones must depend upon their funds, aided by contributions, and the attention of those who are selected to preside over, and direct their application."

Sir T. Bell, V. P. and Treasurer, "thanked

the company in behalf of his colleagues and himself, and made some excellent remarks on the benefits and results of the Institution."

The Chairman, in rising to propose "the health of the Treasurer, Sir Thomas Bell, Knt. V. P." felt it his duty to draw their attention to the services which Sir Thomas had rendered the Charity from its earliest formation. He was aware of his own inadequacy to do justice to the zeal, ability, and perseverance he had evinced in aiding to establish and bring it to maturity; and had no doubt but gentlemen would testify their gratitude and satisfaction by a cordial and hearty welcome of the toast he had proposed."

Sir Thomas Bell, in "offering thanks for their attention, was happy to have the opportunity of assuring gentlemen that he had felt himself deeply interested, in a subject which so much involved the honour of humanity, from the first moment that the founder submitted his views, and plans to him. He was proud that his official situation at that time, of Sheriff, and of his worthy colleague, enabled them to bring with better

effect into public notice and estimation, the project of a Dispensary for ameliorating the state of the Infant Poor; he had watched its progress with peculiar care and satisfaction, and felt a confidence, that the success of this day's efforts would erect a monument honourable to the character of all the individuals who had associated to organize an Institution which, in every point of view, on private and on public grounds, held out such important benefits. Sir Thomas reported the progress of the Institution, and the state of its funds. He made an animated appeal to the meeting for support, and implored all new friends present to add their names to the list of Governors."

The health of the Medical Officers having been drunk—and first, "the health of Dr. J. B. Davis, the Founder and Physician," "the Doctor returned thanks for the honour which had been done him, and assured the meeting that the Institution was accomplishing the extended good which its friends and supporters could anticipate, and that he should never think any sacrifice too great, faithfully to discharge with humanity and care the sacred duties they had confided to him."

On the behalf of the Surgeons, Mr. Pettigrew, observed, “that the high appreciation of their services afforded him and his colleagues the greatest satisfaction. The rich luxury attendant upon doing good, was in itself a sufficient reward for all their trials and anxieties; and the estimation of so respectable a body of individuals as was then assembled, could not fail of creating the most pleasing sensations.”

By permission of the Chairman, “the Founder once more had the honour of presenting himself to the notice of the meeting. He was anxious to bring to their recollection the invaluable services of the gentlemen of the committee, who had, from the earliest period of their associating, cheerfully supported all the fatigues and difficulties of this new undertaking. By their wisdom, moderation and perseverance, the Institution had been founded on a solid rock—the fabrick had been reared under the most illustrious auspices. To those gentlemen, in short, it owed its birth, progress, and actual state of maturity: He begged to propose the health of the Gentlemen of the committee, with sincere thanks for their unwearied and successful exertions.”

Robert Hedger, Esq. in the name and on the behalf of his colleagues, rose to offer their acknowledgments for the unanimous testimony of approbation which had been evinced by gentlemen in drinking the health of the committee. It would be unworthy in him, after the patient attention they had bestowed on every preceding speaker, to occupy any great portion of their time; but, as one of the earliest friends and governors of the Charity, he could not but contemplate with pride and satisfaction the progress which had been made, and the utility and character the Institution had already acquired. He saw no Establishment that held out to mankind in general more important and extended benefit. He reminded the meeting of the necessity for perseverance and unanimity. Upon this latter, and the undisturbed exercise of the functions of the monthly committee, depended an extension of the sphere of its benevolence, the prosperity and complete success of the Institution. He congratulated the Company on the liberal support which had that day been obtained; and expressed a readiness to continue his exertions for bringing the Charity to perfection." The Chairman next gave the health of the Stewards.

John T. Thorp, Esq. "returned thanks, and assured Gentlemen, that it gave the Stewards real happiness to find their exertions had been productive of such beneficial effects to the Charity." The Chairman reported that he had already got a list of Stewards for the year ensuing, which was made afterwards complete, in all twenty, by the subsequent exertions of Sir Thomas Bell.

After giving the "health of the Stewards Elect," the Chairman retired amidst the unbounded plaudits of the Company, who testified their approbation of his polite and able conduct during the whole of the evening. Sir Thomas Bell was now called to the Chair, and successfully exerted himself in procuring fresh Subscribers, and in completing the list of Stewards for the following year.

Robert Hedger, Esq. "then, with the permission of the Chairman, begged to propose a toast, which, in the tribute of thanks and praise, in turn, paid to the illustrious and benevolent for their exertions in behalf of suffering humanity, and in the general desire of bearing testimony

to the merits of the different officers of the Institution, had, he was, convinced, escaped the notice of some Gentlemen more able to do justice to it than himself. He, for one, could not but contrast the scene of mirth and conviviality which prevailed in this meeting with those scenes which the brave defenders of our country have so often encountered. He saw before him a gallant colonel, bearing those insignia which did honour to his bravery and merit. He had before seen that gallant officer, by his presence, giving his assistance to the cause of humanity. It was gratifying to behold those whose profession was arms, after the toils and vicissitudes of war, binding up the broken heart, and pouring the balm of consolation into the wounds which duty alone had inflicted. With such hearts at home, and such men in the field, we might justly be called, "the mighty of the earth." As a mark of respect to that distinguished soldier, who had honoured the company with his presence, he would propose "the health of Colonel Downie."

The Colonel, "in return for the compliment which had been so unexpectedly and handsomely

paid, observed, that it was the greatest pride of his life to advance, by his humble exertions, the honour and glory of his country; that he was rejoiced to say, that the most happy effects had resulted on the Continent from British discipline and perseverance. He was deeply sensible of, and was almost overpowered by the kindness of the meeting, in noticing his feeble pretensions to their favour; and, in the next communication he might make to that illustrious Duke, in whose service he was proud to be ranked, he should not fail to relate the proceedings of this day."

The Chairman repeatedly addressed the company with great success in behalf of the Charity; and, after the health of the Apothecary and Secretary were drunk, the business of the day was concluded highly to the satisfaction of every one present, since conviviality and harmony prevailed, and the interests of this excellent Institution were considerably advanced.

Indeed the Committee felt, that much had been accomplished, and that new interests had been

strongly exerted. All its members were now particularly sedulous to improve those advantages; by fresh efforts, at the first meeting after the Anniversary, on the 31st of March. The committee also proceeded to pass a unanimous vote of thanks to H. R. Highness the Duke of Sussex, for his early patronage, and for the honour he had done the Institution, by permitting the insertion of his Royal Name in the list of Stewards, so complimentary to them, and so highly beneficial to the charity; as well as for his H. R. Highness's note, expressive of his regret, at the unavoidable circumstances which had prevented him from presiding at this the first festival. It was further resolved, that the grateful acknowledgments of the committee, should be presented to His Grace the Duke of Marlborough, for the great advantages which the Charity had derived from his early patronage and sanction—for his liberal donation of 50l.\*—and for the continuance of his support, as the Institution had acquired power and stability by the generous example

\* The Subscriptions and Donations at the Dinner, amounted to 389l. 15s. 8d.

which his Grace had set of serving the office of Steward, and by allowing the sanction of his name to promote its interest on a future Anniversary.

Thanks were then cordially voted to Charles Barclay, Esq. M.P. for his early patronage—for his prompt acceptance of the office of Steward—and for his very able and polite conduct in the chair, to which he had been so unexpectedly called at the Festival.

It was determined also to solicit the Rev. Mr. Saunders, to preach the First Anniversary Sermon, at his church of St. Anne's, Blackfriars,\* he having already manifested very liberal intentions towards the Charity, and made an offer of his services and pulpit at a suitable time.

About this period, Robert Hedger, Esq. ever anxious for the welfare and success of the Institution, had very handsomely presented twenty

\* The Anniversary Sermon was in this instance preached not before, but after the Festival.

elegant wands for the use of the Stewards. These had on one side, in gold letters, on a blue ground, "Universal Dispensary for Children," and on the other, "Instituted 1816." For these—for his liberal pecuniary donations—and for the able, unremitting, and effectual services which he had rendered to the Charity from its earliest foundation, sincere and unanimous thanks were recorded.

A general meeting of the Directors and Governors was held at the Dispensary, on the 7th of May, when it was unanimously resolved, to elect the Founder an Honorary Life Director of the Institution, in return for his exertions and attention to every object of the Charity.

Thanks were also voted at this meeting to Messrs. Pettigrew, Gillham, and Wasdell, the Surgeons, for their skill and attention in fulfilling the duties of their respective offices.

William Mellish, Esq. M.P. was then elected a Vice President; after which, a motion was made

thering its designs ; and to follow up this by a canvassing committee, in addition to which the

Not only, however, is this Institution established to attempt the removal of disease, and thus to diminish the frightful mortality which occurs among children ; it aims also at its prevention—a point of the utmost consequence to the rich, as well as to the poorer classes of society.

The committee acknowledge with satisfaction that the intentions of the Founders and Benefactors have been realized beyond their most sanguine expectations ; since, during the short interval of Twelve Months, which it has been opened to the public, no less than one thousand nine hundred and ninety-six children have been admitted as patients, a fact, it is presumed, conclusive of its utility, and of the readiness with which the poor have sought the advantages held out to them at this new Institution.

Of the one thousand nine hundred and ninety-six children admitted into the Institution, to June 24, 1817.

Have been cured and relieved	-	-	-	1490
Have died	-	-	-	39
Have been inoculated for the Cow Pox	-	-		70
Are at this time upon the books, and under Cure				397
				<hr/>
Total				1996
				<hr/>

Rules and Orders of the Institution were revised and printed with a list of the Governors, &c.

With a view to extend the knowledge of the benefits of this Institution, and to assist its funds, the Rev. Isaac Saunders, rector of the parish in which the Dispensary is situated, has kindly engaged to preach a Sermon, on the second Sunday in September, at which your presence and aid in support of the Charity are humbly solicited.

The Physician, and a Surgeon attend daily at the Dispensary, and the Apothecary resides in the house."

I have the Honour to be,

Sir, your most Obedient Servant,

HENRY RICHARDS, *Secretary.*"

Universal Dispensary for Children,  
Saint Andrews' Hill, Doctors' Commons,

July 28, 1817.

"This Institution is supported by voluntary contributions. A Subscription of *One Guinea* annually constitutes a Governor, with the right of having *two patients* on the books at a time: a Subscription of *Two Guineas*, a Governor, with the right of having *four patients* on the books at a time, and a *double vote* at all elections.

Persons giving a benefaction of *Ten Guineas*, or contributing this sum within the year, are Governors for Life, with the privilege of having *four patients* on the books at a time. Persons

By the close of June it appeared that 1996 patients had been received, of whom only 39 had died; 1490 had been cured and relieved; independent of 70 vaccinated, and a residue of 397 at that period still on the books and under cure.

This state and progress of the Institution are in themselves sufficient to explain occurrences which took place at this period—occurrences which constituted a new era in the charity, and clearly manifested how completely it had already justified the views of the Founder, and fulfilled the intentions of its benevolent patrons and active managers.

On the 26th of July, the Founder stated to the committee that, in consequence of the great increase of patients at the Dispensary, he felt it incumbent to represent that the duties of physician had now become so arduous and heavy, as to render it necessary for him to apply to the committee for leave to be allowed some assistance; and that, if it met with general approbation,

giving a benefaction of *Twenty Guineas*, or contributing this sum within the year, are Directors for Life, with the privilege of having an unlimited number of patients on the books at one time. *Directors have a double vote at all elections.*"

Dr. Shearman would consent to participate in the duties, with himself, gratuitously, and to attend three days in the week at the Institution, at the usual hour of business, so long as it might be agreeable.

This representation was instantly met by the approval of all the members of the committee present, who were so strongly convinced of its propriety, that the proposal was adopted, as a temporary regulation, until the next general meeting, when it would be incumbent on Dr. Davis to make the necessary report and explanations. At this period various individuals of high respectability were stepping forward in support of the Institution, a knowledge of which was spreading rapidly at the West end of the metropolis, partly from its own intrinsic merits, and in a great degree from the exertions of its early friends and supporters. Among the recent benefactors, we must not slightly pass over the name of the Honourable and Reverend Anchitel Grey, who commenced his benevolent patronage with a most liberal benefaction of twenty guineas, and an assurance of every effort, when his health would permit, to advance its interests among his friends and connections,

for which the thanks of the committee were unanimously voted him, on the 25th of August.

In further aid of the funds, on the 14th of September, in the church of the united parishes of St. Andrew by the Wardrobe, and St. Anne, Blackfriars, a sermon was preached by the Reverend Isaac Saunders, A.M. Rector, before a most numerous and respectable congregation, among whom were the Treasurer, Committee, and a number of old and new supporters of this excellent and rising Charity. The learned Divine took an appropriate text from the 8th chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke,\* “And he took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise.” After making some luminous observations upon this interesting passage of scripture, he happily applied the reasonings he deduced from it to the immediate objects of the Institution, the success of which it was his earnest endeavour then to advance. The Reverend gentlemen laid great stress upon the aggregate benefit which had resulted to the infant poor of the metropolis from the exertions of those individuals who had associated for the laudable purpose of affording prompt medical aid to the chil-

\* 54 Verse.

dren of the poor, from all parts of London and its vicinity: he strongly pointed out the miseries and sufferings of this description of our fellow creatures, and feelingly urged their claims to universal benevolence. In his illustrations the Reverend Mr. Saunders displayed eloquence and learning, and concluded his discourse by an impressive and animating appeal, in which he dwelt with much effect and truth on the neglected and miserable condition of sick necessitous children in the metropolis, and on the imperative duty of the community at large to forward a plan for mitigating their sufferings in disease.

It is gratifying to state, that the result of this Sermon was highly satisfactory. Every individual gave proofs of being deeply sensible of the important nature of the object advocated in the discourse. A liberal collection was, in consequence made; and many new Governors gave in their names to the Secretary. Nor ought it to pass unnoticed, that the churchwardens and other officers of the United Parishes kindly lent their personal aid and support upon the occasion, and zealously interested themselves with the inhabitants of the district in furtherance of the designs

of this invaluable Institution, which had now, in the short space of thirteen months, administered advice and medicines to upwards of 2000 sick indigent children.

Thanks, so justly due, for this Sermon, (the first Anniversary Sermon of the Charity), were voted at the next committee meeting on the 27th of October, to the Reverend Mr. Saunders, rector, and to the churchwardens also, of the united parishes of St. Andrew by the Wardrobe and St. Anne, Blackfriars.\*

The thanks of this committee were also voted to Mr. Walters proprietor of the Times Newspaper, not only for his liberal benefaction of Ten Guineas, but also for repeated good offices, in a professional way, which he was respectfully solicited to continue; as it was indeed then considered, that the making its objects and results more extensively known was all that was required to entitle it to the universal favour and support of the public. At the same time the committee, by numerous advertisements was sedulous, in support of the conviction of the advantages to be derived from the exclusive cul-

ture of that branch of science which relates to the diseases of infancy and childhood, and in proof of this, begged to direct the public attention to a view of the result of 1996 cases treated since the opening of the Dispensary, and then recently given to the world in the Medico-Chirurgical Journal.

The committee now in furtherance of the medical views of the Institution, readily consented to a proposition for the establishment of lectures on Infantine Diseases, in order to render the Institution more generally useful. To this the committee was more particularly led by the following communication from Dr. Davis at the meeting of the 27th.

*To the Committee of the Universal Dispensary for Children.*

GENTLEMEN,

“ When the *Universal Dispensary for Children* was established, the necessity for a second physician was anticipated, and that necessity has, in consequence of the great number of children wanting relief, now become evident.”

“ I have great satisfaction in bringing to your recollection that, within a period of sixteen months, 2500 children have received medical and surgical aid at the Dispensary, which is a decisive proof of its utility and success. There are at present 571 children upon the books and under cure. I should be indifferent to feelings of humanity, if I were not to declare to you that my utmost exertions are not equal to the requisite attention to all the children, consistent with my other public and my private avocations. I therefore hope the committee will take an early opportunity of adopting measures for the appointment of a second Physician to the Dispensary, so that my duties may, in some measure, be relieved.”

“ In making this communication, allow me to add, that the great number and variety of cases at the Dispensary, have afforded me peculiar opportunities of treating the diseases of children, and that, with a view to excite the attention of the medical public to this subject, it is my intention with the permission of the general court, to deliver medical lectures at the Dispensary, and to admit students to my practice.”

“ I congratulate the governors on the success of the Institution, and on the prospect of the children of the poor becoming hardy and vigorous, instead of being feeble and sickly, a burthen to themselves, their parents, their parishes, and the public.”

“ It remains for me to express my acknowledgments to Dr. Shearman, for the zealous interest he has taken in the Institution, and for affording me, for the last five months, his assistance at the Dispensary, without which I should have been under the necessity of making an earlier application to you.”

I have the honour to remain,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient faithful Servant,

J. B. DAVIS, M.D.

Great Surrey Street,

Oct. 27th, 1817.

On a careful consideration of the various points contained in this communication, it was agreed, that the appointment of a second Physician should be recommended to the next general court; and also that the first Physician and Founder of the

Dispensary, should have the exclusive privilege of delivering Lectures, and admitting pupils to the medical practice of the Institution; and, in consequence of this proposed arrangement, it was determined to submit to the general court, the appointment of a special general meeting of the Directors and Governors, on the 2d of December, for the purpose of electing a second Physician to the Charity.

The resolutions submitted to the consideration of the general meeting were as follow :

“ That a second Physician be appointed, and that Dr. J. B. Davis, the first Physician and the Founder of the Dispensary, have the exclusive privilege of delivering Lectures, and admitting pupils to the medical practice of the Institution.”

“ That a special general meeting of the Directors and Governors, be held at the Dispensary, on Wednesday, December 2nd, at ten o'clock in the morning, for the purpose of electing a second Physician to this Charity.”

“ That the committee do meet on Monday, the 17th November, at the Dispensary, at seven

o'clock in the evening precisely, to receive the testimonials of the candidates."

"That no new Governor do vote at the election for a physician, unless his subscription be paid to the Treasurer, Secretary, or Collector, on or before the 1st day of December next."

"That the thanks of this meeting be given to Dr. William Shearman, for his zealous attendance at the Dispensary during the time he has aided Dr. J. B. Davis in the discharge of his duty."

"That the above resolutions be advertised in the usual public newspapers, and a copy thereof transmitted to each Governor."

It was further suggested, to appoint a committee to meet on the 17th of November, to receive the testimonials of the candidates, and declare on the eligibility of each for the appointment.

At this meeting it was likewise resolved, to recommend to the general court, that the Hon.

and Rev. Anchitel Grey should be appointed a Vice President of the Charity.\*

The next measure was a determination to solicit the patronage of the Lord Mayor elect, for his support of the Institution, of which he was soon to become President, as chief magistrate of the City of London; and for the better distribution of the rules of the Institution, and also of those for the "Domestic Management of Children, in order to the preservation of their health," it was resolved to send copies to the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and to the Rector of every parish in the metropolis, accompanied by an explanatory and intercessory letter from the Secretary.

In obedience to a rule defining the duties of the committee, a list was prepared of those eight members of the present committee who had attended the fewest times in the year, and also of

\* It is due to this distinguished individual, to offer our sincere acknowledgments, for having taken the Charity by the hand when its funds were low, and it was scarcely known. In the true spirit of a volunteer, he has heartily espoused the Institution, and introduced a number of distinguished supporters.

eight annual Governors, who were recommended in their places. The names of the Gentlemen submitted to the General Meeting to serve on the committee for the ensuing year, were :\*

JOHN ABBOTT, ESQ.

E. R. ADAMS, ESQ.

T. B. AVELING, ESQ.

JOHN BARKER, ESQ.

THOMAS COURTNEY, ESQ.

JAMES COWIE, ESQ.

TIMOTHY H. DAVIS, ESQ.

GEORGE F. DAVIS, ESQ.

\* The following offer from two individuals of the highest respectability, to serve on the committee for the year ensuing, was gratefully accepted, as a gratifying proof of the eagerness of individuals to assist the Charity, and of its increasing estimation.

“ DEAR SIR,

Many thanks for your friendly attentions to our men. I shall be happy at all times to forward your wishes respecting the Charity; and if you think it will be serviceable, adding Mr. Hanbury's name and mine to the committee, you are at liberty so to do.

Truly Yours,

THOMAS BUTTS AVELING.

Brewhouse, Brick Lane.

25th Oct. 1817.

B. G. DAVIS, ESQ.

THOMAS FARRAR, ESQ.

J. H. GRIFFITHS, ESQ.

DANIEL GUILLEMARD, ESQ.

ROBERT HEDGER, ESQ.

SAMPSON HANBURY, ESQ.

MATTHIAS LUCAS, ESQ.

THOMAS MARSHALL, ESQ.

WILLIAM MARSHALL, ESQ.

THOMAS MORRIS, ESQ.

SAMUEL W. SWEET, ESQ.

GEORGE STACEY, ESQ.

SAMUEL TIPPER, ESQ.

SKR. TURNNER, ESQ.

ISAAC VALE, ESQ.

RICHARD VANDOME, ESQ.

GEORGE VAUGHAN, ESQ.

The new auditors proposed for the ensuing year were George Gimber, D. R. Roper, and J. Seaton, Esqrs.

The General Meeting took place on the 5th of November, at which the preceding resolutions of the Committee were approved; regulations respecting the election of Physician agreed upon, and the necessary directions given for the elec-

tion on the 2nd of December ensuing, the general feeling being that Dr. Shearman, who had for sometime handsomely acted in the capacity of Physician would be the successful candidate.\*

\* On this occasion it is but an act of justice to a highly esteemed individual, to give insertion to his very liberal sentiments, in regard to the measures then in progress.

Guildford Street, 14th Nov. 1817.

“DEAR SIR,

I received your letter, and am greatly obliged to you for the recommendations therein contained, and which I have in part adopted; for I have sent an advertisement to be inserted in the papers. I have expressly declined coming forward on the present occasion, at the same time declaring my determination to do so on the next. I have long since resolved not to offer any opposition to Dr. Shearman; but on the contrary, to support him as well as I could, should it appear necessary; which I am now ready to do, should you apprise me of there being another candidate. Should the Dispensary go on and prosper, and “that vires acquirat eundo,” is my full anticipation, it may be found expedient in the course of time, to relieve you and your colleague in embryo, that a third Physician shall be appointed; if so, I shall solicit your friendly advice and support, which should you be pleased to grant me, I shall consider myself as being under great obligations to you. In the mean time should you, from any circumstance whatever, wish to be relieved from a part of your duties

At the preparatory meeting of the committee, on the 17th of November, Dr. Shearman was admitted as a candidate. He produced his diploma as a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of London. After this, a letter was read from Dr. Dennison, in which that gentleman very handsomely waved all opposition to Dr. Shearman; but declared his intention of offering himself as a candidate, should it be necessary, on a future occasion, to appoint a third Physician, from an increasing number of children seeking relief.

A second candidate appeared, in the person of

at the Dispensary, I shall be happy to offer you any assistance I can; and it may be desirable to you in the approaching season, when sickness is generally very prevalent among the poor, that the assistance of a medical friend should be occasionally had recourse to; and should you find that to be the case, I now offer my services to you. Before I conclude this, I will just observe, that I shall, if possible, appear before the committee on Monday next, with my diploma, in order to convince them that my qualifications are valid.

I am, dear Sir,

Your's, with much esteem,

BYAM DENNISON.

Dr. Thomas Addison ; who presented a diploma from the University of Edinburgh, and other high testimonials of his qualifications.

On the 2nd of December, at the special general meeting, Dr. Shearman being proposed by Dr. Davis, and seconded by Mr. Currey, was unanimously elected Physician of the Institution.

The year 1817 closed with the exertions of the committee, to engage the established clergy of London as active assistants, in behalf of the Charity, for which purpose applications were directed to be made to the Rectors of St. Andrew's, Holborn, St. Bride's, Fleet Street, and St. Botolph's, Aldgate, for the use of their churches for Sermons, in aid of the funds of the Institution.

A retrospect of the proceedings and results of 1817, shews a progressive increase of operation, support, and character in the Institution, sufficient to give fresh encouragement and zeal to its most active friends and supporters.

PROGRESS  
AND  
*PROCEEDINGS,*

In 1818.

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THE opening of 1818, was marked by the most strenuous efforts on the part of the committee, to acquire patronage from the highest quarters.\* On the 19th of January, an appli-

\* As an interesting picture of the connection of this Charity with many other objects of importance to the Public, we give the following letter, which appeared in the "New Times" of the 5th of February, 1818.

"SIR,

Whilst yielding heartfelt admiration, and the meed of praise to that active and judicious philanthropy, which is now endeavouring to remove and restrain Mendicity in our public streets, it is impossible not to wish that, this desirable object once obtained, some strenuous exertion might be next directed to the

cation, in particular, was made to His Royal Highness Prince Leopold of Saxe-Cobourg.

relief of the silent distress, that pervades the retired lanes and alleys in almost every part of the metropolis.

To attain such a laudable purpose, the simplest mode, in the first instance, seems to be, by prompt subscriptions, to relieve pressing want; next, to find employment for the industrious as speedily as possible; to refer those, for whom employment cannot be found, to their respective parishes; but, above all, to seek for and adopt some plan, by which the idler and the impostor may be forced to contribute to their own support, instead of preying upon the public. When, however, all this is done, another task of high importance devolves upon us—to guard against and avert the recurrence of the evils which we are now endeavouring to ameliorate, ever keeping in view the old adage, that “prevention is better than cure.”

But, to accomplish this, we must commence *ab ovo*; our concern must be the individuals who are to form the rising generation, from their earliest ages, even from infancy. The “*mens sana in corpore sano*” is not to be expected, unless the soil be well cultivated and well prepared in the first stages of life; unless deviations and deficiencies be then rectified, and a judicious system of bodily and mental education adopted. Neglect the body, and the mind will suffer—neglect both, and then you will have visitors of gin-shops and candidates for the parish workhouse. Who will deny, if a good and sound constitution be not established, that the edu-

The clergy too at this period shewed great anxiety to further the objects of the Institution ;

cation now universally given to the children of the poor, will be a curse rather than a blessing to them, engendering a morbid sensibility and perception which will favour discontent, and keep the ear ever open to the partial misrepresentations of the designing knave, and the political enthusiast!! Who will not admit that the natural consequence of good health is a cheerful heart and satisfied mind! In such a state of constitution, a spirit of industry and independence will be the result of education ; and temperance, content, and loyalty will be the cardinal virtues of the poor.

Such a result, Mr. Editor, must necessarily operate by the positive reduction of future poor-rates; and every pound sterling expended now upon such an object, will in reality form a species of sinking fund for the extinction of parish rates, and operate as a bounty upon industry, happiness, and public security; and, rising with a more rapid and more multiplied activity than compound interest, will serve as an insurance against pauperism in the days of our children. Who is there, Mr. Editor, that would not willingly leave an annuity of 20l. or 50l. to his child; but, *a penny saved is a penny got*; and, therefore, if, at the present day, we adopt measures which will save the next generation even from one-half of our present parish assessments, we shall absolutely leave to them a most valuable legacy—a legacy, which, in its consequences and in its connexions with the ramifications of society, will be worth more than an equal sum bequeathed to them in actual wealth. The real fact then is, that a guinea now expended

and early in February, the committee had received the kindest offers of professional service

judiciously for the end in question, *will accumulate at more than compound interest*, and will not only promote the wealth, but even the security of that wealth during succeeding generations. Good! you will say, Mr. Editor, but you will naturally ask, how or when is this desirable system to begin? Why, Sir, it is begun—begun in an Institution which has been reared for the express purpose of giving health to the sickly—of substituting a vigorous for a puny, debilitated race of beings, who must ever remain a burthen and expence to the parishes and the public at large. This Institution thus strikes at the root of an extensive and acknowledged evil, and will eventually do more towards relieving the public from parish assessments, than new channels for the employment of the poor, or new plans of parochial economy and regulation. It is at all times desirable to check an evil whatever may be the stage of its progress. Some Institutions attack it at its height. The *Universal Dispensary for Children* averts an evil, or applies the axe to it before it has struck too deep root. Much is to be hoped for from this Institution; much it has already done: but to extend and perpetuate its utility and blessings, depend upon the people of the metropolis, every class of whom must indubitably derive the most important benefits from the happy consequences connected with it. I trust to your philanthropy, Mr. Editor, to notice an object so intimately interwoven as this is with the *public welfare*.

I am, Sir, &c.

HUMANUS.<sup>u</sup>

from the Reverend Dr. Rose, the Reverend Isaac Jackman, the Reverend Henry White, and the Reverend Mr Greene, together with sanguine expectations from the Reverend Mr. Ackland.

The committee was also now much taken up with financial affairs ; and in consequence of some difficulties which required the appointment of a sub-committee on the 9th of February to examine the accounts of the Institution, the then collector was suspended in the execution of that office until the accounts should be reported on.

On the 15th of February the second Anniversary Sermon was preached at Allhallows Barking, Tower Street, by the Reverend Henry G. White, A.M. where a liberal collection was made. It is but justice to that Gentleman to remark, that after expatiating on the appropriate text from the Gospel of St. Luke, “ and he healed those who had need of healing,” that a more able picture of the benefits which had accrued to, and were still to be expected among the lower classes of society, from the *Universal Dispensary for Children*—of the misery of poor sick children, who from the poverty, of their parents had not

prompt assistance, could not be depicted. In an affectionate appeal to mothers: "can a mother forsake her sucking child?" which was put with a powerful and sensible effect, he successfully combatted, in a moral view, a barbarous though prevalent idea, that it was desirable that the infant offspring of the poor should perish to avert expence, and public burthen. Having succeeded in this, he strongly recommended the support of the Institution to his congregation, as one intimately united even with the welfare of their own families.

Here we beg to record the names of the Gentlemen who served the office of Steward for the Festival of 1818. They were :

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH

SIR THOMAS BELL, KNT. V.P. TREASURER.

WILLIAM BENHAM, ESQ.

ROBERT BROMLEY, ESQ.

JOHN BANKS, ESQ.

WILLIAM COURTNEY, ESQ.

JACOB COPE, ESQ.

JOHN B. DAVIS, M.D.

GEORGE F. DAVIS, ESQ.

THOMAS DOWMAN, ESQ.

OWEN ELLIS, ESQ.

FRANCIS HEDGER, ESQ.

RICHARD JENNINGS, ESQ.

MATTHIAS LUCAS, ESQ.

GEORGE SKELTON, ESQ.

ROBERT SMITH, ESQ.

JOHN THOMAS THORP, ESQ. M.P. V.P. ALDER.

GEORGE VAUGHAN, ESQ.

FLORANCE YOUNG, ESQ.

The second Anniversary Festival was held on the 4th of March, at the City of London Tavern, when the chair was taken by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, (President of the Charity for the time being), supported on the right by C. Barclay, Esq. M.P. and D. Bevan, Esq. Vice Presidents, the Hon. General Fermor, Mr. Sheriff Alderson, &c.; and on his left, by Alderman Thorp, Sir Thomas Bell, and other Vice Presidents; around whom were seated several distinguished clergymen and characters well known for their zealous and active philanthropy, the early friends and supporters of the Charity.

After the usual toasts of the King, the Prince

Regent, the Queen, and the rest of the Royal Family, were drunk, the next toast was, " His Serene Highness Prince Leopold of Saxe Cobourg, with thanks to him for his donation of Ten Guineas, and for his condescension in patronising the Institution ;" but, the Lord Mayor could not propose this toast without requesting the Treasurer to read the letter which that Prince had directed Sir R. Gardiner to address to the Governors on the occasion of their meeting, wherein he warmly espoused the objects and interests of so valuable a Charity. This toast was received with rapturous applause.

The healths of their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Sussex, as Patrons, were then drunk, with the usual marks of esteem and veneration.

The toast of " Success to the *Universal Dispensary for Children*," " the Lord Mayor introduced to the notice of the company by remarking, that he was confident he now rose upon an occasion which would meet the cordial approbation of all present. He regretted, however, from the slight knowledge he had of the objects and ad-

vantages of this Institution, his own inability to do justice to the sentiment he gave. He knew himself but little of this rising Society, but was convinced that it was one which promised to be of the greatest benefit to the public. It afforded him happiness to know, that there was a gentleman present who could afford that information which he could not give, and called upon the Founder to explain the nature and details of the Institution to the company.”

As the Institution was still but in its infancy, but had already been productive of many beneficial results, we may be permitted to go at some length into the remarks offered to the Company, and indeed to the public at large, on that occasion, in compliance with the President's request.

“ Dr. Davis entered upon a Report of the Progress and State of the Institution up to that day, and began by pointing out the importance of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, the acknowledged void in medical charities that had long been felt for want of it, and the beneficial results

which would ensue in every ramification of society from an exclusive attention to the diseases incident to infancy and childhood. In alluding to the good effects which would result from it to society at large—to the growing and the adult population of this metropolis—he felt it incumbent in honour to that epoch when the Institution took its rise, to record, that although Kingdoms were then trembling for their fate, Empires were commanded, Thrones trampled upon—although private embarrassments existed at home, the claims of public charities were great, the pressure of the times unprecedented, yet all these momentous circumstances could not deter the zealous founders of this Charity from accomplishing their benevolent designs. It was in April, 1816, that their little bark was launched on the troubled sea of public opinion, under the guidance of Princes of the Empire, Chief Magistrates, Senators, Physicians, and Philanthropists of known public and patriotic spirit; and it had not foundered, but had arrived in safety at its destined port. The title of the Institution sufficiently denoted its aim. It was designed exclusively for the relief of the children of the poor, and was open in every case of danger to a first

application without recommendation, to poor children from all parts of the metropolis, from birth to the twelfth year of age. Its grand objects were an attempt to diminish the mortality which was known to have occurred among the offspring of the poor—to protect them from becoming the victims of ignorance and empiricism—to stop the ravages of infantine disease in the bud—to afford ease and relief to the little afflicted sufferer—but especially to substitute a hardy, vigorous population, for a puny race of beings incapable of fatigue and labour, a burthen to themselves, to each other, their parents, their parishes, and the public at large: and thence, in its comprehensive sense, to ameliorate the state of the rising generation in health and in happiness, and through them of generations to come. Between three and four thousand children had been relieved since the opening of the Institution. It was the common concern to rear and promote the perfection of the human species. Still, practices were pursued which counteracted the development of the powers both of the mind and the body. Man alone, of all created beings, destroyed his natural constitution. He who was alone designed to be the *chef d'œuvre* of his Maker, degenerated, and in

progress of time thus changed the traits of an original impression. This Institution, though last established, would appear to the company not to be the least required. Universal in its principle, it was likewise so in the sphere of its operation. In the short space of twenty months, it had administered medical and surgical aid to the sick children of the poor in every parish of the metropolis, and the adjacent villages. It had restored numbers of miserable objects to health, who threatened to be cripples, puny and debilitated, the remainder of their lives. The success of the treatment adopted in the Institution was proved in these facts, that out of 289 cases of measles, only 10 had ended unfavourably—of 201 cases of hooping cough, only 8 had terminated fatally—of 89 cases of inflammation of the lungs, only 7—of 38 cases of water in the brain, only 6—of 30 cases of croup, only 6. These were the most fatal diseases to which children were liable, and the average of deaths was as 37 to 647. Such were the advantages which had arisen from prompt attention to children's complaints—such were the grounds on which this Dispensary rested its claims to the support of the public. These were the prospects, through it, of ameliorating the state

of the rising generation in health and in happiness—of promoting the energies and vigour of the population, the active habits of the people, and thereby laying the foundation for the future abatement of poor-rates, by diminishing the number of that class, which must ever supply the greatest proportion of objects for parochial relief. It was plain, from these remarks, that if we wished to have strong and vigorous children, our object and concern must be the growing man from birth. Whoever wished to see his own life extended in the life of his child—whoever loved his own offspring, would take an interest in an Institution, the avowed design of which was, to promote the health and happiness of the growing man—to afford a refuge for the necessitous poor, whose sick children were exposed to the fatal consequences of the errors of ignorance and the arts of empiricism. Nature, more than policy or duty, prompted us to preserve and protect our helpless offspring. Tenderness towards children was one of the first instincts to animate the heart of man, in the savage state, and the last to quit it amidst the vices which deprave civilization. After giving a full detail of the progress, results, and in-

fluence of the Institution, the Doctor concluded by making an appeal to the Directors and Governors, and the Company at large for fresh exertions in behalf of the Charity."

"C. Barclay, Esq. M.P. congratulated the company on seeing so respectable an assemblage of gentlemen, to celebrate the anniversary festival of an Institution, to which he acknowledged himself to be warmly attached. After the address of the Physician of the Charity, which they had heard, it would be superfluous for him to recommend its interests. He could not but observe, however, that he was sure, when the gentlemen present adverted to the accounts of mortality among the children of the poor, and found that an equal mortality did not prevail in families that could be attended by medical men, when their assistance was most necessary, they would require no other inducement to support the Institution, whose welfare they were then met to promote."

"The Lord Mayor then took occasion to say, that it appeared to him, that it was the business and the duty of the Chief Magistrate of this city,

to promote, to the utmost of his power, the welfare of every benevolent institution ;” and Charles Barclay, Esq. who had again risen to return thanks, very liberally added, that it was a marked feature in the character of the people of this country, that they always forgot all differences in politics, and cheerfully united in sentiment, when they met for charitable ends. Trusting that such would long continue to remain the character of the people of this favoured land, and that this day would prove a propitious day to the Dispensary, he concluded with the customary compliments and good wishes.”

“ On the health of the Sheriffs being drunk, Mr Sheriff Alderson rose to return thanks, and declared, that he was satisfied, from what the gentlemen who preceded him had said, that the Institution was good in principle, that it would become an example to the country at large, and be imitated in distant parts. He sincerely wished prosperity to the Charity, and would give it his cordial support.”

“ The next testimony in favour of the Charity was that of Sir Thomas Bell, who described the

origin and progress of the Institution, and could not but feel highly delighted, when he considered, that only two years after the time the founders had first met in a small room, the Institution had acquired its present character and extent. It was one of the most pleasing of his recollections, that the Charity originated when he was in office. He read an account of the receipts and disbursements for the last year, and assured the meeting, that the Institution was capable of doing still more good, if the support was more general. He complimented the officers who assisted in it gratuitously, and did not omit to notice, that the clergy were now in its favour."

"In alluding to the very luminous and impressive discourse, recently preached at the Anniversary Sermon, by the Rev. H White, at Allhallows, Sir Thomas observed, that it was but justice to that Rev. Gentleman to remark, that a more able picture of the advantages which all classes of society would derive from this Institution, could not be pourtrayed. He also entered into a minute account of the results of the Institution, and laid great stress on the advantage of its being open to poor children on a first application, without recommendation."

The healths of the Clergymen who had successfully pleaded in the pulpit the cause of the Institution, being given, "the Rev. Henry White returned thanks, in an eloquent speech of some length, in which he complimented, with great judgment, the friends of the Charity, the Vice-Presidents, and the Lord Mayor. He strongly recommended them to support the Institution; for no persons, he observed, could conceive the misery of parents, when unable to procure medical assistance for their afflicted children, but those who have witnessed such scenes; and who, therefore, can best estimate the value of Institutions like the present."

When the healths of the committee were drunk, "S. W. Sweet, Esq. acknowledged, on the behalf of the committee, the compliment which had been paid. He pointed out, with the most happy effect, the good which the Institution was accomplishing, by directing the attention of the profession at large, to a more minute investigation of the diseases of children. As a parent, he could but feel that this would be productive of inestimable blessings to every family. The public would be indebted to this Institution, for

giving fresh opportunities to professional men, to extend that branch of medical science, which relates to the treatment of children's complaints."

Having previously entered, at considerable length, into the proceedings of the First Anniversary Festival in 1817, we have thought it unnecessary to record the mere forms of this second one, at which upwards of 160 persons of the first respectability assisted, in uniting the most friendly conviviality with the pleasures of benevolence; but it would have been injustice to the Institution, had we entirely omitted such noble testimonies to its worth and utility.

The Subscriptions and Donations on this day—a day consecrated to charity, amounted to 324*l.* 1*s.*; among which were the several sums of Ten Guineas from Prince Leopold, from the Lord Mayor, the Hon. S. E. Eardley, William Mellish, Esq. M.P. David Bevan, Esq. V.P., G. Skelton, Esq. &c. &c.; together with 22*l.* 15*s.* collected at the Anniversary Sermon, at Allhallows, Barking.\*

\* The following is a copy of the advertisement on that occasion.  
*Universal Dispensary for Children, No. 5, St. Andrew's Hill,*  
*Doctors' Commons.—Supported by Voluntary Contributions.—*

Shortly after the festival, a letter was directed to be sent to His Royal Highness the Duke of

*The following Subscriptions and Donations were received at the Anniversary Festival, held at the City of London Tavern, on Wednesday, the 4th of March, 1818.*

	Donations			An. & Life Govs.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
H. R. H. Prince Leopold of Saxe-Cobourg				10	10	0
The Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor, President				10	10	0
The Hon. S. E. Eardley - - - -				10	10	0
Wilbraham Egerton, Esq. M.P. - -				10	10	0
Wm. Mellish, Esq. M.P. V.P. &c. -	10	10	0			
David Bevan, Esq. V.P. - - -				10	10	0
Charles Barclay, Esq. M.P. V.P. &c.	5	5	0			
Mr. Sheriff Alderson - - - -	5	5	0			
W. Sikes, Esq. - - - - -	5	5	0			
William Banbury, Esq. - - - -	5	5	0			
George Skelton, Esq. - - - -				10	10	0
Mrs. Lund - - - - -	1	1	1			
Fred. Heitch, Esq. - - - - -				1	1	0
The Hon. General Fermer - - -	1	1	0			
Sir William Anson - - - - -				1	1	0
Lady Anson - - - - -				1	1	0
William Pratt, Esq. - - - - -				10	10	0
Dr. Shapter - - - - -				10	10	0
Charles Cullen, Esq. - - - - -				10	10	0
John Tate, Esq. - - - - -				1	1	

Gloucester, explanatory of the objects of the Institution, detailing its progress and results, and

Mr. Jos. Champney	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
John Lainson, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
John Darby, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Jas. Barry, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Lesley Alexander, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Arthur C. Alex, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Thomas Alexander, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Mr. Milner	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Mr. Southgate	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Mr. Wilkinson	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Mr. Botterill	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Mr. Giles Widger	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
— Pfeil, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Mr. Hooman	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Mr. Lawledge	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Mr. Rd. Thompson	-	-	-	1	1	0	
Michael Leman, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Charles Clavering, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
James Ward, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Samuel Brandram, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
T. Morris, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
W. Coxson, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Henry Greenwood, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Rev. J. Greenwood	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
G. Greenwood, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Thomas Irish, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0

expressing the humble hope of the committee, that His Royal Highness would graciously condescend to afford to it his patronage and support.

James Lowndes, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
Henry Bennett, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
Mrs. Bainbridge	-	-	-	1	1	0
Messrs. Moore, Stanger, Son, James, and						
Tate	-	-	-	2	2	0
——— Palmer and Bouch	-	-	-	2	2	0
——— Sage, Jennings and Co.	-	-	-	2	2	0
James Hayes, Esq.	-	-	-	10	10	0
Thomas Dutton, Rothwell, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
Thomas Outhwaite, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
William Varty, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
William Everington, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
John M'Clelland, Esq.	-	-	1	1	0	
Robert Leet, Esq.	-	-	1	1	0	
Rev. William Parker	-	-	-	1	1	0
M. Lucas, Esq.	-	-	2	2	0	
C. H. Thorp, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
Isaac Vaughan, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
W. R. Snellgrove, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
Mrs. Jones	-	-	-	1	1	0
N. Saunders, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
William Broadhurst, Esq.	-	-	1	1	0	
William Blackman, Esq.	-	-	-	10	10	0
J. Spratt, Esq.	-	-	1	1	0	
J. T. Gellibrand, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0

At the committee of the 27th of March, it was also resolved, to acknowledge with a deep sense

D. S. Baxendale, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
P. Wright, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
Robert Brown, Esq.	-	-	-	10	10	0
Benjamin Brown, Esq.	-	-	-	10	10	0
Charles Martin, Esq.	-	-	5	5	0	
John Little, Esq.	-	-	-	2	2	0
William Inglis, Esq.	-	-	-	2	2	0
John Nickols, jun. Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
John Barber, jun. Esq.	-	-	1	1	0	
J. H. Druins, Esq.	-	-	1	1	0	
William Marshall, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
James Johnson, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
William Stennell, Esq.	-	-	1	0	0	
John Marshall, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
T. Marshall, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
Thomas Harding, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
Robert Hedger, Esq.	-	-	-	10	10	0
David Laing, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
J. Thomas, Esq.	-	-	1	1	0	
John West, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
Henry Driver Cooper	-	-	-	10	10	0
Thomas Roberts, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
Oliver Water, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
John Lutwich, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
John Crowder, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0
Messrs. Longman, Hurst and Co.	-	-	-	1	1	0
— Lea, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0

of gratitude and respect, the communication from His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, and that the heartfelt and humble thanks of the Governors should be forthwith conveyed to His Royal Highness, whose illustrious name was now enrolled with the other Royal Patrons, for his gracious

— Dolland, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
— Cole, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
— Hoofgood, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
— Roberts, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
John Mallcott, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
John Daw, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Joseph Howell, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
— Warminster, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Samuel Barlow, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
George Clayton, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Benjamin Standing, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
John Fraser, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
John Bailey, Esq.	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
William M. Hall, Esq.	-	-	5	5	0		
— Sullivan, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0	
— Dodgson, Esq.	-	-	-	1	1	0	

Amount collected at the Anniversary Ser-

mon by the Rev. Henry White, A.M.

at the Church of Allhallows, Barking 22 15 0

————— 101 9 0

£324 1 0

condescension in patronizing the Institution, and for his donation in furtherance of its objects.

It was impossible, whilst recording this testimonial of gratitude, to refrain from regretting HER,\* upon whose patronage the Directors and Governors could have relied, both as a future Queen and a mother; but the dictates of Providence are immutable. There was nothing, alas! left for them, but thus to mark their gratitude to

The following Gentlemen were returned Stewards Elect for the next Anniversary:—

E. R. Adams, Esq.	J. Deans, Esq.
Mr. Sheriff Alderson,	Owen Ellis, Esq.
Thomas Alexander, Esq.	David Laing, Esq.
L. S. Baxendale, Esq.	James Lowndes, Esq.
George By, Esq.	J. Little, Esq.
H. D. Cooper, Esq.	W. R. Snellgrove, Esq.
Thomas Courtney, Esq.	Skinner Turner, Esq.
Robert Currey, Esq.	G. M. Turner, Esq.
G. F. Davis, Esq.	P. Wright, Esq.
J. B. Davis, M.D.	

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\* Papers explanatory of the particular nature of this Institution, its origin and progress, were in preparation by the Medical Founder, at the period of the ever to be lamented death of Her Royal Highness Princess Charlotte of Saxe Cobourg, on whose patronage the Directors and Governors might have reckoned.

him, who, whilst nobly obeying the dictates of his own benevolent heart, was also fulfilling what would have been the wishes of HER, now lost to him, and to an admiring nation !

On the 19th of April, two benevolent clergymen stood forward in behalf of the Charity, the Rev. Isaac Jackman, A.M., who preached an admirable sermon, at St. Olave's, Southwark, in the morning ; and the Rev. John Davies, A.M. at the same church in the evening.

The propriety of so soon selecting that church, was evident, from the fact, that out of 3240 children who had already received Medical and Surgical assistance at the Dispensary, upwards of 800 had been admitted from Southwark and its vicinity ; and that too with the most beneficial results, since there had been but 58 deaths out of the whole number of patients admitted. This circumstance which spoke more strongly than any encomium could possibly do, to the real benefits already conferred on society by the Institution, arose, we may say, in a considerable degree, from the plan of the Charity, to relieve all cases of danger, on a first application, without waiting for any recommendation whatever.

In recording the thanks of the Institution to those Reverend Gentlemen, for their ready compliance with the solicitation of the committee—for their energy in advocating the cause of the Charity—and by their able and zealous endeavours in the pulpit, for essentially promoting its interests; it was not forgotten to pay a just tribute to the Rev. W. Greene, A.M., the rector of St. Olave's, for the prompt and kind manner in which he lent his pulpit, to forward the objects of the Charity, and also, for the facility he had afforded and the zeal he had evinced in promoting the objects of the Institution in so populous and respectable a district of the metropolis.

The committee, as a means of extending the influence of the Charity in society, and as a testimonial of respect to the following distinguished individuals, determined to recommend to the General Meeting that George Byng, Esq. M.P. and Wilbraham Egerton, Esq.\* M.P. should be elected Vice Presidents of the Institution. It was also resolved that a sub-committee

\* To the Honourable and Reverend A. Grey, the committee is indebted for the patronage of Wilbraham Egerton, Esq. one of the member, for Cheshire.

should be appointed to ascertain whether any, and what steps could be taken to diminish the Parochial and King's Taxes charged upon the Dispensary.\*

Early in May the committee was assiduously engaged in the investigation of the collector's accounts, which had for some time been in a state of great irregularity, and in settling a future plan for the financial arrangements of the Charity. On the 6th, a general meeting was

\* The Commissioners of the King's Taxes ultimately on an appeal diminished the King's Taxes charged upon the Dispensary—still to these it even now pays heavily. At a vestry at St. Ann's, Blackfriars, a motion was made by T. Scott, Esq. seconded by G. Graham, Esq. to exonerate the Dispensary from the Poor and Parochial Rates, in consideration of the great advantages which the sick infant poor of that parish and the district had derived from it, no less than 450 children of St. Ann's, Blackfriars, having received medical and surgical assistance: but, singular to say—the motion was opposed and lost! The Charity still pays all the Parochial demands, to the utmost.

To T. Scott, Esq. G. Graham, Esq. and Robert Currey, Esq. the Committee is under the greatest obligations for their strenuous though unsuccessful efforts, to exonerate the Institution from demands which ought to have been abandoned.

held at the Dispensary, when Dr. Davis communicated his intention of commencing, at that place, a course of medical lectures upon the diseases of children, and requested the use of the committee room for that purpose. It was resolved that his request should be complied with, and further arranged that the surgeons of the Institution should have the same permission on that day in each week, when Dr. Davis's Lectures were to be delivered.

To E. R. Adams, Esq. the Directors and Governors will always feel grateful, for the indefatigable pains bestowed by him, in framing a plan for the regulation of the accounts of the Dispensary, and for the establishment of such a system for checking the receipts and payments, as will, if acted up to, ever make the accounts clear and satisfactory.

The kind and continued services of Sir Thomas Bell, as Treasurer to the Institution, were also particularly noticed, and a well merited vote of thanks passed unanimously to that gentleman.

The friends of the Institution were again particularly active in soliciting the assistance of the

clergy of the metropolis in behalf of the Charity ; and on the 25th of May, it was deemed expedient by the committee, in order to keep up a succession of preachers and pulpits, to appoint a *Church Committee*, whose special duty it should be to procure preachers and pulpits for the Institution, and to superintend all business connected with this Department.

It was resolved, that the Church Committee should consist of five members, and that the following gentlemen should be requested to accept the office.

JOHN ABBOTT, ESQ.

E. R. ADAMS, ESQ.

WILLIAM MARSHALL, ESQ.

RICHARD VANDOME, ESQ.

J. B. DAVIS, M.D.

The investigation of the collector's accounts being now concluded, that officer tendered his resignation to the committee, which was accepted ; and a special meeting directed to be summoned for the 17th of June, in order to elect a successor to the office. Many important regulations were also

made respecting the apothecary's duty, and the interior management of the Establishment.\*

A special committee, for receiving candidates for the collectorship, assembled on the 10th of June, when Mr. Henry Chrichard and Mr. William Burr sent in their applications and testimonials as candidates for the vacant office ; and, on the same day the committee had the satisfaction of hearing that Sir James Mc'Grigor had signified his approval of the intention to propose him as a Vice President of the Institution.

It was now determined that no new Governor should vote upon the ensuing election, unless his subscription should be paid on the day previous to the day of election. It was likewise resolved on the 17th of June that such Governors as were then absent from London on business, or from any other unavoidable circumstance, should be allowed to vote by proxy, as well as those who lived two miles distant from the Dispensary. The ballot then took place, when Mr. Chrichard was elected, by a majority of 77 to 11.†

\* See Definition of his Duty, under the head of Rules.

† We cannot better exemplify the state, progress, and results of the Charity at this period, than by the following letters,

The Founder had at this time completed a classification of the diseases of children; and with a

which were published in the New Times in the month of July 1818.

“SIR,

After the developement which, at various times, has been given in your truly patriotic paper, to the objects and results of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, I may venture to anticipate a continuance of that publicity, which has so essentially contributed to the success of an Institution, now deservedly high in the estimation and favour of a liberal and discerning public. However gratifying it might be to expatiate upon that benevolent spirit of our countrymen, which enables this Charity to hold a conspicuous rank among the munificent establishments of the metropolis, yet more encouraging to—more availing will it be with those philanthropists, to whom its merits may be still unknown, to peruse an authentic statement of facts corroborative of its utility, than to hear the characteristic generosity of this age extolled in the cause of charity; in which, indeed, all classes, in common with the founders of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, eminently participate. With this design I beg to annex the subjoined Report of Results, which, though short, will carry the conviction of a volume to the impartial mind, that the plans and proceedings of this Charity, have a direct and powerful influence, in diminishing disease among the children of the poor in every district; and, consequently, in diffusing among all classes of society, the advantages and blessings of health and vigour, spring-

view to the more extensive developement of this branch of medical science, and to assist his pupils,

ing from a sound constitution. Nor is the whole of the benefit aimed at by this Charity, to be confined to this view of the subject only. The public have just grounds for anticipating, that the sciences of medicine and surgery will, in due time, be enriched by some useful accession of knowledge—some extension and improvement in the branches cultivated within its walls."

"Medical and Surgical Lectures are not only now delivered there, in pursuance of an original intention of the founders, but every opportunity is afforded to pupils for observation and study, in order that the views and opinions entertained of infantile medicine, may be confirmed or refuted, by the clinical cases selected and enlarged upon by the lecturers, for the purpose of their instruction. Here then is a new school opened for the young practitioner, upon a principle as excellent as it is unprecedented. In no other part of the kingdom, can he have such a facility as in this Institution, for acquiring a proficiency in the treatment of the diseases of children, or can he so conveniently cultivate a study, in which he generally is deficient, when he starts to apply to his practice, the principles which he has imbibed in his professional education."

"In adverting, in the next place, to the subjoined results of this Institution, the public will reflect, with heartfelt delight, that within the space of two years, nearly 4000 sick indigent children

a copy of his “ Outline of a Nosological Arrangement of Diseases in Children, into *acute* and *chro-*

have experienced the benefit of prompt medical aid, many of whom were sinking under the most complicated diseases at the time of their admission; and that these objects have all been supplied gratuitously with medicines as well as with advice, by the humane exertions of 350 philanthropists, who have generously given up a portion of their time, their pleasures, and their money, to secure to the sick offspring of the poor, the comfort and the blessings of seasonable and efficacious medical aid.”

“Will it be denied, that results like these, establish a fair claim to more extended support? Do they not prove, in the most powerful manner, the great utility of such an Institution? Yes! and whilst they substantiate the position, that the Institution is capable of effecting an extensive good, they present a fair inference, that it is capable of rescuing twice the number of objects from premature infirmity and disease, in a similar space of time, when double the number of benefactors shall enrol their names on the list of Governors—a list adorned with the names of individuals remarkable for their philanthropic efforts to diminish the mass of human misery, wherever and whenever it appears.”

“For the above purpose, an appeal to Britons is sufficient; but, if any other inducement than the love of doing good to those who can do nothing of themselves—who are diseased, indigent, and incapable of dissimulation, were necessary to animate our humane

*nic*, according to the situation of parts *known* or *presumed*," was presented to each pupil, and to the committee, when it was determined that a copy of the same should be forwarded by the

countrymen to assist in this great work, that inducement may be probably found in the communication, that the services of the Physicians and Surgeons are gratuitous—that the applications for relief must be refused or circumscribed, unless the funds are enlarged—that these applications are daily becoming more numerous—that vigilance and attention preside over every department—that only one spirit actuates all connected with the Institution—the desire of effectually raising the Charity upon a broad and solid basis, so that it may accomplish in the amplest manner, the useful and benevolent plans of the Founders, and in extending its services through the medium of stations, to the remotest quarters of the metropolis, set an example worthy of the imitation of other large cities of the empire."

"The example of doing good, Mr. Editor, is better than precept. That example is before the public.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

HUMANUS."

July 15, 1818.

Founder to His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, accompanied by the following letter.

*A List, exhibiting the Parishes, and the Number of Infant Poor respectively admitted from each Parish into The Universal Dispensary for Children, St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors' Commons, between 24th June, 1816, and 31st July, 1817.*

<i>Parishes within the Walls.</i>		No. of Child.	
	No. of Child.		
		St. Mary Magdalen, Old	
		Fish-street	5
St. Ann, Aldersgate	12	St. Mary Woolnoth	1
St. Ann, Blackfriars	241	St. Michael, Cornhill	3
Allhallows, Bread-street	4	St. Michael, Wood-street	2
St. Andrew, Wardrobe	43	St. Michael Royal	7
St. Benedict	7	St. Michael, Queenhithe	56
St. Bennett, Paul's Wharf	53	St. Mildred, Bread-street	1
St. Bartholomew by 'Change	2	St. Nicholas, Coleabby	6
St. Clement, Eastcheap	4	St. Pancras	5
Christ Church, Parish	11	St. Peter, Paul's Wharf	11
St. Dunstan, East	3	St. Stephen, Coleman-street	4
St. Faith	1	St. Thomas the Apostle	5
St. Gregory	18	Trinity Parish	5
St. Katherine Coleman	12		
St. Catherine Cree	2	Total	640
St. Laurence Jewry	2		
St. Magnus, London Bridge	1	Total Cured and Relieved	1490
St. Margaret, Fish-street	20	Total Died	39
St. Martin, Ludgate	43	Total Inoculated for Cow	
St. Martin, Vintry	2	Pox	70
St. Mary, Abchurch	3	At this time upon the Books,	
St. Mary, Aldermary	2	and under Cure	397
St. Mary le Bow	7		
		Total	1996

“ May it please your Royal Highness,

The liberal encouragement which your  
Royal Highness is known to bestow on every

<i>Parishes without the Walls.</i>		No. of Child.	
	No. of Child.		
		St. Leonard, Shoreditch	135
St. Andrew, Holborn	81	St. Luke, Middlesex	89
St. Bartholomew the Great	2	St. Mary, Islington	8
St. Botolph, Aldgate	42	St. Mary, Lambeth	52
St. Botolph Without, Bish.	73	St. Mary Magdalen, Bermon.	27
St. Bride	39	St. Mary, Newington	16
St. Dunstan, West	8	St. Mary, Whitechapel	49
St. George, Southwark	92	St. Matthew, Bethnal-green	53
St. Giles, Cripplegate	82	St. Paul, Shadwell	13
St. Olave, Southwark	9		—
St. Saviour, Southwark	93	Total	743
St. Sepulchre	30		—
St. Thomas, Southwark	10	<i>Parishes in the City and Liber-</i>	
	—	<i>ties of Westminster.</i>	
Total	561		No. of Child.
	—	St. Clement Danes	14
<i>Out Parishes in Middlesex and</i>		St. James, Westminster	8
<i>Surrey.</i>		St. Margaret, Westminster	11
	No. of Child.	St. Martin in the Fields	13
Christ Church, Surrey	85	St. Mary le Strand	6
Christ Church, Middlesex	115	St. Paul, Covent-garden	3
St. Dunstan, Stepney	28		—
St. George, Bloomsbury	3	Total	52
St. George, Middlesex	10		743
St. Giles in the Fields	11		561
St. James, Clerkenwell	29		640
St. John, Hackney	12		—
St. John, Wapping	8	Grand Total	1996

N.B. The above is an authentic Statement taken from the  
Register of Patients at the Dispensary.

effort to enlarge the boundaries of science, however humble that effort may be, will abundantly

SIR,

In my letter of the 24th ult. I endeavoured to point out to the public, the objects and importance of *The Universal Dispensary for Children*. I now annex such results, in further recommendation of it, as cannot fail, I trust, of interesting benevolent individuals, from all parts of the metropolis, in its favour. The extensive benefit which the Institution has already afforded to the Infant Poor, in every district, is satisfactorily shewn in the following statement, to place which before the eye of the public, is my motive for again trespassing upon your attention.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

HUMANUS.

*A List, shewing the Parishes, and the Number of Children respectively admitted from each Parish into the Universal Dispensary for Children, between June 1816, and July 1818.*

<i>Parishes within the Walls.</i>		No. of Child.	
	No. of Child.		
		Christ Church	26
		St. Dunstan, East	6
St. Ann, Aldersgate	54	St. Faith	1
St. Ann, Blackfriars	446	St. Alphage, Sion College	1
Allhallows, Bread-street	12	St. Gregory	34
St. Andrew, Wardrobe	80	St. Katherine Coleman	22
St. Benedict	7	St. Katherine Cree Church	3
St. Bennet, Paul's Wharf	83	St. Lawrence, Jewry	2
St. Bartholomew, Exchange	2	St. Magnus, London Bridge	4
St. Clement, Eastcheap	5	St. Margaret, Fish-street	20

shield me, under the sanction of the committee, from the imputation of arrogance in presuming to submit to your Royal Highness's

	No. of Child.		No. of Child.
St. Martin, Ludgate	75	St. John Baptist	3
St. Martin, Vintry	3	St. Mary, Somerset, do.	3
St. Mary, Abchurch	3	St. Michael, Crooked-lane	23
St. Mary, Aldermary	3	St. Olave, Wood-street	1
St. Mary, Le Bow	11	Allhallows, Barking	27
St. Mary Mag. Old Fish-st.	22		
St. Botolph, Bishopsgate	75	<i>Parishes without the Walls.</i>	
Allhallows, London-wall	4	St. Dunstan, West	15
St. Antholin, Watling-street		St. John, Southwark	2
St. Bennett, Gracechurch-st.	1	St. George, Southwark	233
St. James, Garlick-hill	23	St. Giles, Cripplegate	140
St. Lawrence, Pountney	3	St. Olave, Southwark	17
St. Helen	7	St. Saviour, do.	185
St. Mary, Woolnoth	6	St. Sepulchre	82
St. Michael, Cornhill	5	St. Thomas, Southwark	11
St. Botolph, Billingsgate	5	St. Andrew, Holborn	151
St. Michael, Wood-street	2	St. Botolph, Aldgate	65
St. Michael Royal	7	St. Botolph, Aldersgate	3
St. Michael, Queenhithe	81	St. Bartholomew the Great	19
St. Mildred, Bread-street	1	St. Bride	124
St. John Evangelist	1	St. Botolph, Bishopsgate	20
St. Nicholas, Cole Abbey	11		
St. Pancras	2	<i>Out Parishes in Middlesex and Surrey.</i>	
St. Peter, Paul's Wharf	17	Christ Church, Surrey	162
St. Stephen, Coleman-street	6	Christ Church, Middlesex	156
St. Thomas the Apostle	10	St. Dunstan, Stepney	29
Trinity Parish	32	St. George, Bloomsbury	8
St. Mary Mounthaw, Old		St. George, Middlesex	14
Fish-street	6	St. Giles-in-the-Fields	19

notice the accompanying “Outline of a Nosological Arrangement of Diseases in Children,” the

No. of Child.		No. of Child.	
St. James, Clerkenwell	51	Camberwell	2
St. John, Hackney	16	Somers' Town	1
St. John, Wapping	11	Liberty of the Rolls	13
St. Leonard, Shoreditch	211	Poplar	3
St. Luke, Middlesex	192	Limehouse	10
St. Mary, Islington	12	Lewisham	2
St. Mary, Lambeth	91	St. Mary-le-Bone	2
St. Mary Mag. Bermondsey	66	Hackney	3
St. Mary, Newington	31	Tottenham	4
St. Mary, Whitechapel	63	Peckham	1
St. Mary, Bethnal-green	79	Dulwich	3
St. Paul, Shadwell	14	Ware	1
St. Catherine, Tower	7	Chelsea	2

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Grand Total 3761

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*Out Parishes in the City and  
Liberties of Westminster.*

St. Clement Danes	25	Whereof have been cured	
St. James, Westminster	8	and relieved	3120
St. Margaret, do.	11	Have died	60
St. Martin-in-the-Fields	22	Have been vaccinated	110
St. Mary-le-Strand	13	Are upon the books and	
St. Paul, Covent-garden	7	under cure	471
St. John, Westminster	3		
Hoxton	6		3761
Charlton	4		

first of the kind which has hitherto been attempted, or placed before the eye of the public, on this branch of the Healing Art.

In the systematic Guide thus given to the Lectures delivered by me, at the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, on that part of the practice of medicine which relates to the diseases and medicinal management of children and young persons, an emulation will be excited among the faculty, which may be productive of improvement in this department of medical science, and eventually lead to the fulfilment, in this respect, of the benevolent and enlightened views of the Royal Founders of that Charity.

I am,

May it please your Royal Highness,

With profound respect,

Your Royal Highness's,

Most obedient, and most obliged Servant,

J. B. DAVIS,"

August 19, 1818.

103, Great Surry Street,

Blackfriars.

This communication was most graciously received by His Royal Highness, who directed the following answer to be returned.

Kensington Palace,

21st. August, 1818.

Lieutenant Colonel Hervey is instructed by the Duke of Kent to convey to Doctor Davis, His Royal Highness's best thanks for the copy of his "Outline of a Nosological Arrangement of Diseases in Children," and to assure him, that His Royal Highness conceives the public much indebted to him, for having been the *first*, to attempt a classification and publication of this sort.

Doctor J. B. Davis.

Copies of the same "Nosological Arrangement" were sent to all the early founders, and the gentlemen of the committee individually; and one having been also transmitted to the Honourable H. G. Bennet, M.P. that gentleman returned his approval as follows:

SIR,

I thank you for the paper with which you have favoured me. I have no doubt it will have all the useful effect you rely on obtaining.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

H. G. BENNET.

Doctor J. B. Davis.

Walton-upon-Thames,

August 29th.

In the ensuing month, September, the committee resolved that early application should be made to the Dukes of Northumberland, Devonshire and Rutland, requesting leave for deputations to wait upon their Graces, to present them with Books of the Rules and Regulations of the Institution, and to solicit their patronage ; and it was unanimously agreed that a letter should be addressed to His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, respectfully soliciting him to introduce the Institution to the favourable notice of the amiable Princess His Royal Consort, with a view to procure Her Royal Highness's consent to become a Patroness thereof.

About this period the Honourable and Reve-

rend Anchitel Grey, had been very active in furthering the objects of the Institution, so much so, indeed, that the Right Honourable Lord Grey, now Earl of Stamford and Warrington, his eldest brother, sent by his hands, a donation of Twenty Guineas, for which thanks were voted to His Lordship, and to the Honourable and Reverend A. Grey.

The Countess of Stamford and Warrington having been induced, through the same benevolent channel, to adopt the patronage of the Institution, and to send her first annual subscription of Two Guineas, for which the committee hastened to express its acknowledgments, it was resolved to recommend to the next general meeting that her Ladyship should be chosen a Patroness of the Charity.

With a view also to obtain the co-operation of Lord Grey, and the Honourable S. E. Eardley, and to shew the high value the committee attached to those distinguished individuals, it was likewise unanimously agreed to recommend them to that meeting for election on the list of Vice Presidents of the Charity.

It was besides ordered that an official record should be made of the presentation of an "Outline of a Nosological Arrangement of Diseases in Children, into Acute and Chronic—as adopted in the Lectures on that branch of the "Practice of Medicine which relates to the Diseases, Medicinal Management and Nursing of Children, delivered at the Dispensary," by the Senior Physician of the Establishment.\*

\* The following communication appeared shortly afterwards in the New Times.

"SIR,

It is a serious reflection, and much to be regretted, that in examining the Bills of Mortality, we find little less than one-half of the human race is cut off in early infancy; and as this can only arise from improper management, or disease, or from both causes combined, too much attention cannot be paid by professional characters to this period of life. The diseases of early infancy are difficult to investigate. Their progress is so rapid, that it is often impossible to distinguish the primordial source of the evil, from its consequences; and there is wanting that information on the part of the patient, which is so useful to a practitioner, at a more advanced age. He is obliged, therefore, here to trust almost entirely to his own observation, and those signs of derangement which pain creates. Hence, experience is perhaps more necessary in the diseases of infancy, than in those of any other

The Founder having already written to his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, on the subject

age; and hence also, the propriety of this branch of the healing art, forming of itself a particular department."

" To these reflections we are led, by the perusal of a nosological arrangement of this subject, by Dr. J. B. Davis, Physician to the Dispensary for the Children of the Poor, intended to elucidate the plan and extent of his lectures, in order to point out how far this class of diseases, from its importance, ought to form a distinct line both of study and practice. He has laid a solid foundation for this purpose, by his exertions in establishing this benevolent Institution; and the vast number of cases of disease resorting there, gives him opportunities which no other practitioner can boast. It is clear, that the subdividing the practice of the profession, as far as possible, into branches, is the true method to obtain perfection in practice; and that the general scholar, and the general practitioner, are equally lost in the immensity of their subjects. The regulations that apply to the mechanical arts are equally forcible here; and the attention to one subject will give a clearness, a precision, and a certainty to the opinion of the Physician, which he cannot pretend to when his practice is extended and diffuse."

This table is formed on the most natural mode of arrangement of diseases, as they affect the separate parts of the body. In no work on the diseases of children, has such an attempt at classi-

of the resolution adopted at the committee, he shortly after received the following gracious communication in reply.

“ Brussels, 30th Sept. 1818.

“ The Duke of Kent does himself the pleasure of acknowledging Doctor Davis’s letter of the 21st instant, conveying a copy of the resolutions passed by a majority of the Governors and Committee of the *Universal Dispensary for*

ification been made, and by such a plan only, could a clear and systematic view of the subject be offered. All modes of arrangement are liable to some objections; and even that of the celebrated Dr. Cullen has not escaped animadversions; but it is obvious, that if diseases are considered according to their seat, more advantage is gained in respect to their treatment, than by any other method. This is what a Physician is chiefly to attend to, the seat or part of the body affected, and the nature of that part from its particular structure or conformation. They naturally go hand in hand. Dr. Davis has thus opened a wide and new field, both as lecturer and practitioner, which promises to place the practice in infantile diseases, on a more rational basis than previous to his time; and if so, society will derive one of the greatest blessings, in the alleviation of the sufferings of that early period, which is incapable too often of unfolding the tale of its distress.

I am, Sir,

A FRIEND TO SCIENCE.”

*Children*, by which the Duchess of Kent is solicited to adopt the patronage of that valuable Institution, and of informing him that Her Royal Highness assents with great pleasure to the request, which the Doctor will have the goodness to communicate through Sir Thomas Bell to the Governors and Committee of the Institution.”

A list of the new committee for 1819, was proposed at a committee on the 26th of October, pursuant to a rule of the Charity; at which it was also agreed to recommend to the General Meeting, that such part of the Tenth Rule as directs that the three auditors shall not be members of the monthly committee should be rescinded.

The gentlemen proposed for the committee of 1819, were

JOHN ABBOTT, ESQ.

E. R. ADAMS, ESQ.

J. B. AVELING, ESQ.

JOHN BANKS, ESQ.

JOHN BARKER, ESQ.

SAMUEL BRANDRAM, ESQ.

ROBERT BROMLEY, ESQ.

JAMES COWIE, ESQ.

TIMOTHY H. DAVIS, ESQ.

GEORGE F. DAVIS, ESQ.

GEORGE GIMBER, ESQ.

BENJAMIN G. DAVIS, ESQ.

JAMES DEANS, ESQ.

JAMES GREEN, ESQ.

SAMPSON HANBURY, ESQ.

ROBERT HEDGER, ESQ.

MATTHIAS LUCAS, ESQ.

THOMAS MARSHALL, ESQ.

WILLIAM MARSHALL, ESQ.

RICHARD REILEY, ESQ.

ROBERT SMITH, ESQ.

S. W. SWEET, ESQ.

SAMUEL TIPPER, ESQ.

RICHARD VANDOME, ESQ.

GEORGE VAUGHAN, ESQ.

After this it was gratefully recorded that E. R. Adams, Esq. an active and zealous member of the committee, had presented the Institution with the sum of Ten Guineas, as a moiety of a fine paid by the proprietors of the Milford stage coach, for a severe injury received by him in consequence of the coach being overturned; and then resolved that the sincere thanks

of the committee should be given to E. R. Adams, Esq. for his able and continued exertions in assisting the charitable designs of the Institution.

By a circular letter ordered to be addressed and distributed early in November, to all the Rectors in the metropolis,\* it appeared that not

\* We record this Circular as highly descriptive of the objects of the Institution.

“That this Institution, so extensively useful to the Sick Children of the necessitous Poor, be introduced, by means of a Circular Letter, to the notice of the Public, in the different Districts of the Metropolis in which it has relieved patients.”

“That the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, was established in 1816, and has, in less than two years and a half, afforded Advice and Medicines, gratuitously, to upwards of 4570 objects, residing in the Parishes within and without the walls, in the Out-Parishes of Middlesex and Surrey, in the City and Liberties of Westminster, and the Villages adjoining the Metropolis.”

“That the design of this Charity is to afford prompt Medical and Surgical Assistance to the Sick Children of the necessitous Poor, from all parts of the Metropolis and its vicinity, who, on a first application are relieved *in every case of danger* without any recommendation.”

“That the acute nature and rapid progress of most of the

less than 4571 patients had been received at the Dispensary, of whom only 75 had died, whilst

Diseases of Children, render a provision in this Establishment, for immediate help, highly necessary, in order to take advantage of an early opportunity, which is too often the only one in these cases, of saving life—a provision that gives a peculiar and invaluable feature to this Charity, of which no other Public Medical Institution is possessed.”

“That by the prompt and effectual assistance afforded by this Charity, and frequently to whole Families of Sick Children, the Parents of numbers of them have been prevented from applying for Parochial Relief; an alternative to which they would in many instances have been reduced, but for the prompt relief afforded by this Charity, to their sick offspring, in consequence of the extreme poverty always produced among the Poor, by the long continued Sickness of their Children.”

“That every disease except Small Pox, and every kind of infirmity or distortion, requiring Medical or Surgical Treatment, incident to Children from Birth to 12 years of age, or occurring to them in common with adults, come within the relief and scope of this Charity, and that Inoculation for the Cow Pox is performed and encouraged.”

“That this Institution aims at preventing as well as curing Diseases, and that therefore as many of the Diseases of Children are occasioned by mismanagement, errors in diet and nursing, and may be averted by a more reasonable and judicious plan of rearing, than is at present practised, in all ranks indeed, but

3806 had been cured and relieved, 123 vaccinated, leaving the extraordinary number of 567

more particularly among the Poor—sets of Rules for the Domestic Management of Young Children, have been drawn up and printed at the expence of the Institution, and are distributed gratuitously to the Parents of the Children admitted as Patients, with a view to guide them in a plan more conducive to their infants health.”

“That a Physician and Surgeon attend daily at the Dispensary, and that an Apothecary resides in the House, for the facility of affording assistance in cases of danger, at any hour; and that with a view to give accommodation to the Poor, who come from the remote Parishes of the Metropolis and the Villages adjoining, and to provide for the increasing influx of applicants, the doors of the Institution are now thrown open daily at half past Nine in the Morning for their reception, and are opened also every afternoon at Four, for those who require a repetition of Medicines.”

“That this Institution has given birth to a School of Medicine, in a department of Medical Science, which needs much investigation; that Pupils from the different Hospitals are Pupils now of this Establishment, and attend the Lectures delivered within its walls, and that the new views which have there been taken of several diseases, particularly of that fatal one, Water in the Brain, are likely to be productive of great benefit, and an improved and more successful mode of treating this and several other disorders.”

“That the faculty be invited to send all bad and hopeless cases of disease, to the Institution, for treatment.”

on the books at one time and under cure—a number which fully justified every possible appeal to the Public on the part of the committee.

“That the increasing demand daily for Medical and Surgical Assistance, occasions a great exhaustion of the Funds, and that painful as it would be to diminish the scale of relief to the Sick Children of the Poor, the Committee feel, that unless the Public will enlarge the resources of the Charity, this alternative is unavoidable, although the services of the Physicians and Surgeons are gratuitous, and that the expenditure is solely for the purchase of Drugs, for the payment of Rent, Taxes, Stationery, Advertisements, Printing, the Apothecary’s Salary, the Secretary’s Gratuities, and the Collector’s Poundage.”

“That a Subscription of One Guinea annually constitutes a Governor, with a right of having *Two Patients* under cure at the same time, by which means he is enabled to relieve 24 Poor Children in the course of the Year, probably more; that a Subscription of Two Guineas annually constitutes a Governor, with a right of having *Four Patients* under cure at the same time, by which means he is enabled to relieve 48 Poor Children in the course of a Year, probably more; that the Sum of Ten Guineas subscribed within the Year, constitutes a Governor for Life, with the same Privileges of the Governor who subscribes Two Guineas annually; that the Sum of Twenty Guineas subscribed within the Year, constitutes a Director for Life, with the Privilege of having an unlimited number of Patients at one time on the Books.”

At the general meeting of the 4th of November, the answer, already recorded, of His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, promising the patronage of his Royal Consort, was laid before the Chair, to both of whom, the grateful thanks of the meeting for their Royal Highnesses condescension and kindness, were unanimously voted.

It was with great pleasure also resolved that the Countess of Stamford and Warrington should be a Patroness; and that the Right Honourable Lord Grey, and the Honourable S. E.

“That the Friends of the Charity be solicited to use their endeavours to procure new Governors, and that they be furnished with a Circular Letter, containing a Copy of these Resolutions, for distribution among their friends,”

HENRY RICHARDS, *Secretary*.

NUMBER OF PATIENTS ADMITTED FROM THE OPENING OF THE  
INSTITUTION.

*In June, 1816, to November 1818.—4571.*

Cured and Relieved	-	-	-	-	3806
Died	-	-	-	-	75
Inoculated for Cox Pox	-	-	-	-	123
Upon the Books and remaining under Cure	-				567
Total					4571

Eardley, should be Vice Presidents of the Institution.

The recommendation respecting the Auditors having been confirmed, a vote was passed to appoint five annual auditors, instead of three, but that two only of these should be eligible as members of the monthly committee.

This general meeting also adopted an engraved frontispiece for the Book of Rules and Regulations of the Institution, and for the Anniversary Ticket; and directed that proof impressions of the same should be sent to the Patrons, Patronesses, President, Vice Presidents and Committee.

In consequence of the preceding resolutions of thanks to the Duke and Duchess of Kent, the senior Physician was requested to communicate with his Royal Highness, and to forward to Brussels, a copy of the Frontispiece, with a letter, which was as follows:

“ May it please your Royal Highness,

I am directed by the Governors of the  
*Universal Dispensary for Children*, assembled

this day in general meeting, at the house of the Dispensary, to inclose your Royal Highness a copy of resolution of thanks to her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, for her condescension in patronizing this Institution.

I have the honour of inclosing your Royal Highness a proof impression of a frontispiece for the Book of Rules, and for the Anniversary Ticket of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, designed by Mr. Mc'Call, and engraved by Mr. Penny.

I trust your Royal Highness will be of opinion that the objects of the Institution are appropriately expressed in the contrast shewn between health and disease, in the figures of the children—in the wretched female with her sick infants imploring assistance of the genius of the city, who, personified in the benevolent and happy mother with her children playing by her side in health and vigour, points to the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, rising under Royal Patronage, as the House of Succour.

The Governors have assembled two successive

years, in Anniversary Festival, on the first Wednesday in March, and would feel, a high gratification in knowing whether they might hope for the honour of your Royal Highness's company, on that day in the ensuing year, or, if any other period would better suit your Royal Highness's arrangements.

I have the honour to be,

May it please your Royal Highness,

with profound respect,

Your Royal Highness's,

Most obedient, and most humble Servant,

JOHN B. DAVIS."

103, Great Surry Street,  
Blackfriars.

November 14th, 1818.

On the 30th of November the apothecary tendered his resignation to the committee, accompanied with an offer to discharge the duties of the office until the election of a successor. His resignation was accepted, and the committee requested that he would discharge the duties, as proposed, until the election of another Apothecary, which was appointed to take place by ballot on the 30th of the ensuing December, at

a Special General Meeting to be convened for that purpose.

On the 14th of December the committee went into several resolutions explanatory of the duty of the apothecary.\* Proposals and testimonials were then received from several candidates for that office, but three candidates only were accepted, Messrs. Sandel, Wray, and Buck; and on the 30th at the special general meeting, Mr. Septimus Wray was declared duly elected.

Towards the close of the year, a letter was received by the committee from His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, in reply to the vote of thanks from the general meeting, to the following purport.

Amerbach, 13th December, 1818.

“ Lieutenant Colonel Harvey of the Royal Scots, private secretary to the Duke of Kent, is instructed by His Royal Highness to acknowledge Doctor Davis’ obliging letter of the 5th ult. received here last evening, and to inform him, that Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent,

\* See definition of duty under the head of Rules.

to whom the copy of the resolution of thanks, voted to her by the Governors of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, for her condescension in patronizing the Institution, has been presented, feels extremely grateful for the manner in which her becoming the patroness of it has been noticed; and has desired it might be conveyed to the next meeting, how happy she shall be, whenever she returns to reside in England, in promoting to the best of her abilities, the praise worthy objects of that Institution, and in the mean while, the pleasure it will afford Her Royal Highness to receive an annual report of its proceedings.

From the shape of the parcel, containing the proof impression of the frontispiece for the Book of Rules, and Anniversary Ticket of the Society, it has been impossible to transmit it here, but Lieutenant Colonel Harvey is directed to assure Doctor Davis, that his description of Mr. Mc'Call's design satisfies him, that nothing more appropriate, could have been devised. With reference to the question, put by the Doctor as to the probability of the Duke being in England at the time of the next anniversary meeting, Lieutenant Colonel Harvey fears he must say, that there is

not the slightest chance of it, although it would be very much His Royal Highness's wish, as well as the Duchess's to go over, for the event, that is expected to take place in May."

To this most gratifying and complimentary communication, the following answer was immediately returned.

"May it please your Royal Highness,

In pursuance of the request which His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent has condescended to express to the Governors of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, in a letter of the 13th of December, which Lieutenant Colonel Scott, of the Royal Scots, did me the honour to address by His Royal Highness' directions, I am desired by the Directors and Governors of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, to report to your Royal Highness and the Duchess of Kent, that within a period of twelve months this Charity has increased both in the number of its supporters, and in the scale of its operation, to an extent which has surpassed the expectations of its warmest friends and well wishers.

“Under your Royal Highness’s patronage the number of its Governors is now augmented to 400; and it is daily receiving an accession from volunteers of influence and respectability.

“In about three years, it has relieved 6000 sick indigent children from all parts of the metropolis and its vicinity, and without detracting in any degree from the excellence and merits of other public medical institutions, the parents of the sick infant poor flock to this new Charity with avidity, from a knowledge that relief is in every case of emergency administered at any hour, by *night or by day*, without waiting for a ticket of recommendation: and that such a plan as this, and such a plan only, can rescue their children from the immediate danger into which an acute disease too often plunges them. In short, the promptitude and certainty of relief are irresistible recommendations of the Charity to the affluent, and the hope and solace of the poor.

“The committee has the honour to present your Royal Highness and the Duchess with the Book of the Institution last published; and to solicit Her Royal Highness, their illustrious

Patroness, to accept an impression upon satin of the frontispiece descriptive of the objects and design of the Charity, which, on account of Her Royal Highness's residence abroad could not be sooner forwarded.

“ At the Institution, Lectures on the diseases of children and young persons continue to be delivered ; and in order to advance the medical character of it, a regular report is made once in three months of all the cases, in the Medico-Chirurgical Journal.

“ The last six months have been a most important era, for the Institution. Within that period, an highly dangerous complaint, of an inflammatory nature, of the lungs and trachea, has been extremely prevalent among the infant poor of the metropolis ; the mortality of which, has been most materially diminished by the prompt assistance rendered at the Dispensary, as it is, and has been, from the first establishment of the Charity, a very valuable and distinguishing feature in its economy, that, in ALL CASES OF DANGER, assistance shall be rendered on the first application, without the formality of a Governor's

letter: and in no instance has assistance been withheld, even by night, when danger existed.

It is impossible, in adverting to this important and original provision, not to feel an immediate conviction of its advantage and humanity; for it is a lamentable and well known fact, that diseases attack children suddenly and proceed with severity, unless checked in their earliest stages, defying the utmost medical skill and attention afterwards; a few hours, often deciding upon an infant's case.

Neither had the Institution, up to this date, only carried succour to the infant poor of the district in which it is situated. *Universal* in its principle, its utility was not intended to be confined to any local bounds. From all parts of the metropolis and its vicinity, children were brought, and are still brought, to receive the benefits of the Charity, a convincing proof that the void, which hitherto existed among the numerous Medical Institutions of London, is destined to be filled up, as results have shewn, by this peculiar and distinctive establishment.

It was, indeed, at that period, a most gratifying reflection to the committee, that the offspring of its labours had thus materially lessened the ravages of disease among the most helpless of the human race—that it had afforded ease and relief to the little afflicted sufferer, under the most accumulated distress and pain!!

A source too of high satisfaction it was to observe, that its exertions had not failed, in many instances, of producing another very essential good—the prevention of disease—a point of the utmost consequence to the rich, as well as to the poorer classes of society.

In consonance with this, the tables of rules drawn up by the Senior Physician, for the domestic management of young children, in order to the preservation of their health, and for their treatment under incipient disease, had been for some time, distributed among the parents with the happiest effects. They were resorted to by them with confidence; and were then, as now, eagerly sought after by every class of persons having families.

Whilst thus congratulating themselves on the number of lives that had been saved, by the prompt means of affording assistance, hitherto practised in this Institution alone, the Directors and Governors had a double gratification, for they were not without hopes that, besides having rescued from bodily suffering, and from premature dissolution, a number of infant poor in every district of the metropolis, who must inevitably have perished without such immediate aid, some improvement might also be ultimately derived to Medical Science, by the exclusive cultivation of a particular branch of practice, pursued with that advantage which only a concentration of cases can afford.

So great indeed had been the number of patients, for some time previous, that flocked to the Dispensary, the committee had found it imperatively necessary to throw open the doors of the Institution as early as half-past nine in the morning, in order to afford time for administering assistance to the increasing influx of patients, who crowded from all quarters.

On the list of high patronage which the Insti-

tution had now to produce, the names of many ladies of the first rank in society were recorded. It was indeed most gratifying to observe, an assiduous philanthropy among the fair sex, in behalf of the sick children of the necessitous poor of their respective neighbourhoods, and of the metropolis.

To the clergy also, great praise was in this, as in former years, due. In the course of the year 1818, we have had to record Sermons preached by the following gentlemen, under the kind permission of the rectors of the respective churches.

At St. Olave's, Tooley Street, the Rev. W. Greene, A.M. Rector; by the Revds. Isaac Jackman, and John Davies, A.M.

At St. Michael's, Queenhithe, the Rev. Dr. Coombe, Rector; by the Rev. F. W. Robe, A.M. in June.

At St. James, Garlick Hithe, the Rev. Robert Stevens, A.M. Rector; by the Rev. John Rose, D.D. in July.

At St. Luke's, Old Street, the Rev. Trefusis

Lovell, A.M. Rector; by the Rev. F. W. Robe, A.M. in September.

At Allhallows, Bread Street, the Rev. Thomas Cherry, B.D.; by the Rev. W. James Bellamy, A.M. in December.

Such were the increased state of patronage, and extended utility, to which the Institution had arrived at the close of the year 1818. Still, we cannot wind up our report to this period, without begging the Editor of the "New Times" newspaper, to accept our best thanks for having at all times liberally opened the Columns of his Paper, to advance the interests of our rising Charity, from its earliest commencement to the present day, but particularly in the year we have just concluded.

## PROGRESS

AND

## *PROCEEDINGS,*

In 1819.

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THE ensuing year (1819) opened with a slight change in the Surgical Department of the Institution. On the 25th of January, John Waddell, Esq., wrote to the committee, and stated his approaching removal to some distance from the metropolis, in consequence of having formed a professional engagement of interest to his future welfare. At the same time he declined sending in his actual resignation as Extra Surgeon on the establishment, feeling anxious to reserve to himself the power of resuming that office, in the event of returning to London. He concluded with trusting to the indulgence of the committee, for a compliance with his request, expressing the warmest wishes for the success of the Institution.

This letter, which was taken up by the com-

mittee as an application for leave of absence, was immediately complied with. The committee determined to select some proper person as a temporary substitute, and directed that its thanks should be given to John Wasdell, Esq. for the assiduity and attention manifested by him in discharging the duties of his office—duties which, until a substitute should be found, were to be performed by Mr. Wray, the Apothecary, who was himself a member of the Royal College of Surgeons.

The circumstance of Mr. Wasdell's temporary retirement into the country having transpired, various proposals from the most respectable characters, immediately came in to the committee, now more especially occupied in preparing for the celebration of the Anniversary Festival, appointed to take place in March.

Great expectations had been formed from the personal exertions of the Duke of Marlborough, then Marquis of Blandford; but the hopes of the committee were much damped on the 20th of February, on the receipt of the following letter, occasioned by the demise of the late Duke, addressed to the Secretary.

"SIR,

The melancholy event which has so recently happened in my family, will, I hope, be deemed by His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, as well as by the committee, of which you are the Secretary, a sufficient reason for my not attending the Festival, to which your letter of the 11th instant alludes.

I shall be at all times happy and ready to forward, to the best of my ability, the charitable views of the Society; and I beg leave to inclose Fifty Pounds as a small furtherance of its objects.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

MARLBOROUGH."

Feb. 16, 1819.

This was indeed a noble testimony of His Grace's wish to serve the Institution, and as such, was received by the committee with profound and grateful admiration.

The first application to fill the surgical vacancy, ad interim, was from Mr. H. Davies, Surgeon to the Household of H. R. H. the Duke of Cumberland, followed by others from Mr. W. C. Dendy,

Mr. Harry Cox, and from Mr. Septimus Wray, the then Apothecary to the establishment, who, for a short time, had officiated for Mr. Wasdell. Mr. Wray however, observed, that as such an appointment would interfere with his other engagements as Apothecary, he should not hesitate to resign that latter office on some future meeting of the committee.

It was then resolved, at a committee on the 22d of February, to accept the offer of W. C. Dendy, Esq. to perform gratuitously the duties of Mr. Wasdell's situation, pro tempore. At the same time the thanks of the committee were given to H. Davies, Esq. for his obliging offer, with the addition, that, although under existing arrangements, it was not in the power of the committee to accept of his valuable services, yet the Governors were flattered by his offer, and were happy to express their full conviction, that the credit of the Charity would have been promoted by his professional abilities and attention.

Similar votes were also passed, as marks of consideration, to Messrs. Cox and Wray, the other candidates.

The latter of these gentlemen, having recently succeeded to the business of Mr. Pettigrew, Surgeon, in Fleet Street, found it necessary to tender his resignation as Apothecary, his affairs not now allowing of his fulfilment of that office. In consequence of this his resignation was accepted; he still consenting to officiate until the election of another Apothecary, which was fixed for the 22d of March ensuing.

Previous to the Festival,\* the Third Anniversary Sermon was preached, by the generous permission of the Rev. Dr. Rose, Rector, at the Church of St. Martin's Outwich, Bishopsgate Street, by the Rev. S. Crowther, A.M. Vicar of Christ Church and St. Leonard, Foster Lane. The congregation was respectable, and the collection, though small, manifested the high sense entertained of the Charity itself, as well as of the persuasive oratory of the Reverend Divine in the cause of benevolence.

We cannot permit the Third Anniversary Festival to pass over without some specific notice; as more than one of the speeches made in the

\* The names of the Stewards for this Festival are already recorded at page 185.

course of the evening may be considered as practical reports of the state and progress of the Institution, and attended with more beneficial results than an elaborate report could possibly have had. We shall therefore, without further apology proceed to observe that the Anniversary Festival of this interesting and valuable Institution was celebrated at the City of London Tavern, on Thursday, the 11th of March. The chair was taken at six o'clock precisely by C. Barclay, Esq. one of the Vice Presidents, who was supported by many clergymen and public characters well known for their zealous and active philanthropy, the early friends and supporters of this Charity—by Sir Thomas Bell, Benjamin Hawes, Esq. Samuel White Sweet, Esq., &c. &c.

After the introductory toasts, not immediately connected with the Institution, the “healths of their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Sussex, and Prince Leopold” were drunk with enthusiastic fervour for the royal patronage so liberally afforded; and on announcing the next toast, which was, “The Duchess of Kent,” “the Chairman said, he could not propose that health without reading a letter which her Royal Highness

had directed Lieutenant Colonel Harvey to address to the Governors of this Institution, in which she warmly espoused the objects and interests of this Charity, and promised on her return to England, to use her interest in its behalf. This toast was received with great applause."

Next followed, "The health of the Countess of Stamford and Warrington, and the rest of the Ladies who have patronised this Institution."

"The chairman rose for the purpose of drawing the attention of the company to the immediate object of the day. It was his duty now to introduce to their notice the Charity whose success they met to advance; and when he proposed as a toast, "Success to the *Universal Dispensary for Children*," he felt confident that his call would be received with unanimity and applause. Although there was no individual who held the Institution in higher estimation than himself, and he had observed its increasing utility and progress with peculiar satisfaction, yet, as he felt that the particular object of it, and its advantages and general nature could be more fully described to the meeting by another Gentleman than by himself,

he should, with the permission of those kind and generous friends who had taken the afflicted little children of the poor under their protection, and laid their hands upon them and blessed them, call upon the Founder, to favour the company with his observations and report."

Thus called upon, "Dr. Davis felt it his duty to comply, by reporting in a particular manner every thing connected with the state and progress of the Institution, and to detail the specific events which had taken place since the preceding festival. He therefore, after passing a merited eulogy upon the early friends and supporters of the Charity, proceeded to describe the design of the Institution, which, he stated, had been established from a conviction that the great proportion of deaths which is known still annually to occur among the children of the necessitous poor, and the immense number of diseased and crippled objects among them, in every district of the metropolis, might be diminished by more immediately and more particularly directing the attention of the faculty to the medical wants of these miserable and helpless little sufferers, who in this Institution are re-

lieved when the case is dangerous, without waiting for the formality of a letter of recommendation. So that not merely in design, but in practice also, the Institution imitated the good Samaritan of old. It was open at all hours to administer medical assistance to the sick infant poor. It was by this humane provision that the ravages of disease in sick necessitous children, and in young persons afterwards, were obviated by attacking it in the bud, before it broke forth into destructive activity. A powerful shield was also raised in this Institution to protect the helpless little sufferer from the arts and influence of empiricism, of which the sick infant poor were, in a lamentable degree, the victims and the sport. In the next place, instructions were issued at the Dispensary to the uninformed and prejudiced parent, offering a simple and rational mode of rearing children, by way of antidote to the absurdities and errors of modern practice (too common even among parents in higher circles of life,) instructions, which were printed at the expence of the Institution, and distributed gratuitously among the poor for the benefit of their children. One object of this Dispensary was to treat and remove disease—the other, to pre-

vent disease from forming, a point accomplished by the distribution of these instructions; so that the Institution secured the blossom from being blighted in the bud, and brought the fruit to maturity and perfection afterwards.—

—Of all plans, this was the best to render the population robust and vigorous, and to prevent cripples and a sickly race of beings from springing up among the poor, incapable of undergoing the labour necessary to obtain their livelihood, becoming a burthen to themselves, to each other, their parishes, and the community at large—the opprobrium of art—dragging out a miserable existence, afflicted with every kind of infirmity, slowly, but yet prematurely sinking into the grave. On the consequences of this to Society, the speaker commented, and dwelt upon the necessity of commencing a system of counteraction from the earliest periods of infancy. The *Universal Dispensary for Children* had given birth to a school of medicine in a department of science, relating to the diseases of children and young persons, which required much investigation. Many pupils from the different hospitals of the metropolis, and many settled practitioners had become pupils of the Institution, and attended

the medical practice and lectures delivered within its walls. A nosological arrangement of the diseases of children, new and original in every respect, had been published as a guide to the new views and opinions entertained at the Institution, of many of the most fatal diseases of infancy. Every description of disease, except Small Pox, every accident, distortion, or infirmity incidental to children, or occurring to them in common with adults, from birth to the twelfth year of age, was treated in this Institution. It was a well known fact, previous to the establishment of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, that the situation of the sick infant poor was deplorable in the extreme. There was no house of relief exclusively for them. To hospitals they were rarely carried for assistance, and in Dispensaries a very small proportion, compared with adults, was admitted. In the dreadful situation of a convulsion, or some other acute and dangerous disease, the empiric, or an ignorant practitioner, was the parent's only hope, the child's only succour, both of which dabblers in medical practice were ready to extort money where it could be but ill spared—both equally regardless of the patient's life. It was impossible for those

who had not witnessed the scenes of distress\* and misery, produced among the poor and their chil-

\* Cases of the most deplorable kind have been admitted into the Dispensary, where Children have been reduced to a state of complicated disease, from want of early Medical Help—want of skill in the practitioner—and what is more distressing still, from his want of humanity. One case, in particular, will never be effaced from the writer's mind. A destitute female, the widow of a soldier, who had bravely fallen in the defence of his country, was passing a street in the vicinity of Covent Garden, with her helpless infant in her arms, struggling in a fit. In this situation, she was accosted by an individual, who directed her instantly to go to the *Universal Dispensary for Children*. Advice and medicines were administered without delay, and every assistance afforded daily—but that assistance, alas! came too late: the case consisted of whooping cough, with inflammation of the lungs, and the child expired in a few days. The most agonizing part of this poor woman's case, (as she herself said) was the recollection of her not having been able to do more for her child, in the early stage of its complaint. She took it, as she stated, for some days previous to its admission into the Dispensary, to an apothecary, near Covent Garden. For medicines she continued to pay him, till her resources were exhausted. But in the interval the child's danger encreased. Is it possible, that any member of the profession, (and the woman states this as a fact) could say to a poor wretch, in this unhappy situation, that he had assisted her child as far as it could be entitled to assistance, for the money he had received? Yes! and that he could have done still more for her infant, if he had been better paid!!!

dren, by the practices of these unauthorized and unblushing practitioners, to form an adequate idea of the usage adopted often by them to the heart-broken parent, when all hope of an infant's recovery was lost. Neither were the pains and disappointments known, which parents encountered, upon making an ineffectual attempt to procure a ticket of admission into a Dispensary. The picture was that of an infant dying in a mother's arms, who was without the power or means to relieve it; or of an infant to whom assistance had been afforded, when it proved ineffectual from the delay in its administration. Strong as these necessities were for rearing this new fabric of benevolence, it could not fail of attracting, from the moment it was planted, the necessitous poor, for whose sick children it was designed, from every quarter of the metropolis. In about two years and nine months, 5060 sick necessitous children had partaken of its benefits, of whom 4360 had been restored to health, and many of the number from the most desperate diseases to which children are liable; 150 had been vaccinated, only 85 had died, and there still were upon the books, and under cure, 500 objects claiming the services of the Charity.—

(*Hear, hear!*)—This was an irresistible proof of the avidity with which the poor had embraced the advantages held out to them in this Institution for their sick offspring—of the accomplishment of the designs of the Governors, and of the success and value of the Institution itself. Society had brought us many inestimable blessings, but it had also opened upon us many doors of death from the throne to the cottage. The more varied the pleasures, which originate in a highly domesticated state of civilization and refinement, the more it becomes our duty, if they tend to affect our infant years, and the infant poor in particular, to make some provision to abate or remove their bodily sufferings, from this cause, under disease, before they strike too deep root and threaten a fatal activity. By promoting the developement and growth of the body, we were taking the most effectual means for furthering an expansion of the intellectual powers. The mind was the same in every man, though the flame which it emitted, varied both in its brilliancy and in its duration. When it was not so, it was because the senses of that individual were imperfectly developed, and incapable of receiving the glorious expansion. Like the marble from the

quarry, the mind possesses in all men intrinsic beauties, but requires perfection of the senses, as that does the hand of a skilful workman, to bring out all the veins and spots, the ornamental shades and touches; and such a degree of perfection can only be obtained, by imparting health and vigour to the body—by establishing a free circulation—and by rendering the soil favourable for the production of that heat and those supplies, which are necessary for the growth, development and perfection of our senses. The speaker took occasion, in this part of his speech, to apply the preceding remarks to the object immediately before the meeting. No work could be more important, interesting, and attractive, than the one they had engaged in. The health and happiness of the human species in all ranks and in every age were involved in it. The ulterior object was the future man—the immediate one, the infant race—our own children in particular—their health, their happiness, their preservation and perfection. On the entire developement of the body—on the full and free enjoyment of health, all excellence must depend. Aided by the light of education, our children would then

grow up great in mind, comely in person, vigorous in constitution, vieing with the British oak itself in strength and stateliness of growth, as olive branches around our table, bearing fruit in due season. There was scarcely a parish in the metropolis, in which the Institution had not carried succour to whole families of children, often eight or nine in number. Indirectly, therefore, it was useful to every inhabitant paying rates, by preventing the parents of those children from becoming tenants of the workhouse, a resource to which, from the long continued sickness of their children, they are often driven, in consequence of the deplorable and distressing poverty which the poor experience from such a cause. A knowledge of this fact had biassed the clergy and the inhabitants of every parish in favour of the Charity—a Charity which was truly parochial to every parish. Under the auspices of the clergy, the Institution was rising daily in public estimation, and had received from them effectual support and assistance. A good proof of the success of the Institution, in the treatment of the diseases which had been admitted into it was, that in 400 cases of measles, only 19 children had died; in

402 cases of hooping cough, only 18 ; in 60 cases of croup, only 8 ; in 460 cases of inflammation of the brain, lungs, or other important organs, a very small proportion. It was in the treatment of water in the brain, and a dangerous fever to which children are very subject, that the success was most striking : eighty cases of water in the brain had been cured. The attention of the faculty had been excited to this fact ; many practitioners embraced the new views entertained in the Institution of this disease. After taking a review of the objects, and great importance of this Charity to society, the speaker observed, that its claims to support were unrivalled—that they justified the highest expectations. To the call of sickness, it was open by night and by day ; and for the promptness with which it relieved in cases of urgency, it was superior to any other public Medical Institution. In those, delay intervened before the object received succour ; in this, assistance was administered at the moment it was most wanted. No benevolent man would withhold the hand of succour from the sick infant poor, when he could confer benefits like these. No mother could resist the cries and wants and sufferings of that tender age, when every slight shock strikes

the expanding sense, and rouses even into dangerous excess, from very slight causes, the preservative powers of life. Those who took a delight in domestic happiness, were best able to appreciate such a bulwark of our infant years—a bulwark which would impart to the constitutions of sick necessitous children, a strength and energy which would render them superior to disease, and enable them to overcome it. If our affection for our children were sincere in health, how great would not our regard—our feelings for them be when worn down by pain and sickness—what efforts would we not then gladly make, at a time when the filial and parental tie are more acutely known and felt, to rescue them from suffering!! The poor man, until the *Universal Dispensary for Children* was established, was doomed to participate in the keenest sorrow and distress—to see his children drop, one by one, like blighted buds, without the power to help or the means to save them. After dwelling on the good that would result from encouraging a natural and reciprocal humanity among the poor, which the exertions of this Institution would effect—on the benefits that all ranks of society would derive, from the diminution of disease among the infant

poor, and on the advantages of a healthy, vigorous, and robust population to the community and to the state, the Doctor concluded his speech, the facts contained in which, had a due weight with the company, in demonstrating the utility and importance of this noble Institution."

"Benjamin Hawes, Esq. corroborated the statement of the preceding speaker, which he was well enabled to do, from the active part he had taken in the affairs of the Charity. After making some very excellent remarks, of which he is so capable, on the merits and respectability of the Chairman, (which, however, did not refer so expressly to the Institution as to need insertion here,) he concluded a manly and dignified speech, properly felt by every individual in the room, by proposing the health of the Chairman, Charles Barclay, Esq., a toast which was received with high and marked satisfaction."

"Charles Barclay, Esq. in returning his thanks, said, he had universally found a difficulty on occasions like the present, to express his feelings. The kind manner in which his name had been introduced by his friend Mr. Hawes, and the

flattering way in which it had been received by the company, were circumstances which would be deeply engraved on his heart. He then called the attention of the meeting to the general objects, and said he felt an extreme degree of pleasure in supporting an Institution like the present, which diffused its benefits over the whole community in the true Christian spirit of Charity."

"The healths of the Members of the County of Middlesex, and City of London," were next given, and were followed by "The health of Sir Thomas Bell," the Treasurer.

"Sir Thomas Bell came forward to address the meeting, with a confidence and satisfaction he had not hitherto had the honour of doing. It was his duty to put before them an account of their finances, and to detail to them what had been the resources of the past year, and the expenditure. At the last Festival, it would be remembered, there was a small balance against the Institution. This year, he was happy to report, the Treasurer had in hand the sum of 130*l.* after all the bills and outgoings for the year had been paid. It was evident, from the state-

ment he would read, that the funds of the Charity had progressively increased, and that the liberality of the public was such as to meet the expence occasioned by the increasing demand upon the Institution for relief. Sir Thomas then read a balance sheet, and next made a flattering report upon the receipts and contributions at the Festival."

"The healths of the several Clergymen, who, in having preached Sermons, or lent their Pulpits, in favour of the Institution, had greatly contributed to its support, were next drunk. To this toast succeeded the health of the Rev. Mr. Parker, a kind and zealous friend of the Charity, who returned thanks in an appropriate and eloquent speech, and generously offered, at any time, to advocate the cause of the Institution in the Pulpit."

"The healths of the Physicians and Surgeons, were received with marks of approbation. Doctor Davis rose, and assured the company, that the feelings which he experienced, from being placed in so distinguished a situation, by the compliment just conferred upon him, individually, were too difficult

to convey by language. The tide of gratitude ran so strong through his heart as to overwhelm almost every other sensation; and had a source in him that could never be exhausted so long as life and intellect remained. He should always recollect with the most heartfelt pleasure, the countenance he had received from the Directors and Governors, from the first moment of their association up to the present day; and should ever feel gratified at the remembrance of the victorious result which a steady perseverance had effected. The establishment of the *Universal Dispensary for Children* was an instance of private and public beneficence, that might challenge the fairest page of the splendid annals of Charity of this country. It was a most decisive and brilliant proof of the fostering influence of our soil in every cause connected with the happiness and welfare of mankind."

"The healths of the President and Vice Presidents followed, and on the health of the committee being drunk, E. R. Adams, Esq. in rising to return thanks, said, it was quite unnecessary for him to detain the meeting with any detail of the objects of the Institution, as

they had been already so fully developed. It was gratifying to the committee to find, that the liberality and exertions of the public had kept pace with the increasing demands on the Institution for relief. There was one circumstance to which he would draw the attention of the meeting, which was, that the officers had ever shewn an uniform zeal in the discharge of their several duties, which, although now heavy, from the great influx of patients into the Institution, *were gratuitous*, and had been so from the commencement of the Institution. He congratulated the meeting on the success of the Charity, and was persuaded that it only required to be more extensively known, to attract a far greater patronage and support. The committee would be always ready to co-operate with the Governors at large, to advance its interests. He had the honour of thanking them for the compliment they had passed upon the committee."

We have thus selected such leading points, as bear specifically on the objects and results of the Institution. The harmony and hilarity of the meeting it is unnecessary to descant upon; but it is incumbent to record its benevolence, by stating,

that the Donations and Subscriptions, including the produce of the Anniversary Sermon, amounted to the sum of 311*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*

Shortly after this, a committee met to examine, on the 16th of March, the various testimonials of such candidates as might offer for the vacant situation of Apothecary. Although several gentlemen had at first offered themselves, Mr. Harry Cox, alone, appeared before the committee. His testimonials were of the most satisfactory kind, and fully justified the expectation, that a Special General Meeting on the 22d, would elect him as the Apothecary to the establishment.

At the committee meeting, on the 29th of March, Dr. Shearman, in a polite note, tendered his resignation, which was accepted, together with his considerate offer, to perform the usual duties until a successor should be appointed.

In consequence of the removal of one of the Surgeons, Mr. T. J. Pettigrew, from the London Medical Society House, in Bolt Court, Fleet Street, to Spring Gardens, and of his entering upon new and distant duties, it was anticipated

that his resignation would be sent in to the same committee, which it accordingly was, with a representation, that his hours of attendance at one o'clock, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, would in future prove inconvenient to him in his practice; and besides this, it was known that he was now Surgeon to the Asylum for Female Orphans. His resignation was accepted, and a Special General Meeting appointed for the 26th of April, for the election of a Surgeon, the 15th of that month being named for the reception of the testimonials of candidates. The election for another Physician was, at the same time, referred to the Half Yearly General Meeting on the 5th of May ensuing.

At the committee of the 15th of April, Mr. Dendy again offered himself to become a candidate for the office of Surgeon. He produced several very satisfactory testimonials, in addition to those which he had previously laid before the board. Mr. Septimus Wray was also admitted a candidate, upon his former testimonials.

Both of these gentlemen were proposed and seconded; but, on proceeding to the ballot, Mr.

Wray stated that he had declined being a candidate, and requested that the ballot might not be kept open on his account. Mr. Dendy was therefore declared unanimously elected, Surgeon of the Institution.

The committee met on the same evening to receive the testimonials of candidates for the office of Second Physician, when Dr. Thomas Addison, whose testimonials had been previously recorded upon the minutes of the Institution, again offered himself as a candidate. It was, in consequence, resolved, that he should be admitted ; but that the meeting for the decision of the election of a Physician should be postponed until the general meeting in November.

The thanks of the committee were then voted to Mr. Pettigrew for his services to the Institution ; and to Mr. Dendy for his active exertions during his temporary exercise of the office of surgeon as locum tenens for Mr. Wasdell.

It having been presumed that the election of Mr. Dendy to the office of Surgeon on the Establishment might preclude him from performing

the duties of the extra surgeonship, which he had hitherto executed, Mr. E. A. Lloyd, and Mr. Septimus Wray sent in their proposals as candidates for that duty ; but Mr. Dendy having very handsomely offered to continue to discharge the extra duties, in addition to his new ones, his offer was accepted by the committee, but not without presenting its best thanks to Messrs. Wray and Lloyd for their liberal proposals.

The committee having further come to a resolution that it was necessary to appoint a messenger to the Institution, it was agreed to recommend Stephen Harris to the general meeting, as well qualified to execute that office, at a salary of Ten Guineas per annum.

The first general meeting of the year took place on the 6th of May, when the Court thought it expedient, from the pressure of patients, to proceed without delay to fill up the vacancy created by Dr. Shearman's resignation, instead of waiting until the November meeting, as was originally proposed by the committee. Upon this decision of the Directors and Governors assembled, it was moved, and unanimously carried, that

Dr. Thomas Addison should be the Physician. The Chairman, Captain James Deans, accordingly declared the Doctor to be duly elected.

This business having been arranged, the meeting separated, after voting their sincere thanks to Dr. Shearman, not only for his zealous and unremitting attention to the duties of his office, whilst Physician to the Charity, but also, for the interest which he had uniformly manifested in promoting its success.

That success was triumphantly manifest in its results; as it appeared by a return to the committee on the 31st of May, that the total number of patients admitted amounted to 5715, of whom only 96 had died; 180 had been vaccinated; and 4837 had been cured and relieved, leaving still on the books 602, at an expense which demanded the utmost economy on the part of the committee and officers of the Establishment, and loudly called for every exertion in a pecuniary way on the part of the benevolent and humane.

A circumstance which took place at this date

deserves particular notice. A very reputable, but not very opulent couple residing near Covent Garden, partly impelled by economical motives, and we trust in some measure induced by various reports creditable to the Institution, had taken advantage of its liberal plan of reception to put one of their infants under its medical care. The case was extremely critical and tedious; but its treatment was finally successful. Such was the gratitude, in consequence, of the parents, that Mr. S—— immediately sent the following note, which we shall transcribe, as fully deserving a place in the annals of the Dispensary, and as an example to other parents whose children have received similar benefits.

“ Mr. S—— presents his compliments to Dr. Davis, and has enclosed a Guinea, which he wishes to be applied to the funds of the Charity; and which he wishes annually to contribute. He begs also to assure the Doctor, that any thing that lies within his power to forward the interest of the Institution, he shall always most cordially embrace.”

May 10th, 1819,  
Hart Street, Covent Garden.

The strenuous exertions of the committee, not only in its official duty, but in its unremitting endeavours to procure patronage of the highest order were now amply repaid by public and by royal approbation. We cannot suffer this remark to pass over without recording the sentiments of one of the earliest patrons of the Institution, and to whom it owed so much, in the person of the late and ever to be lamented Duke of Kent, whose good offices we have so often had occasion gratefully to acknowledge.

“ Kensington Palace,  
22nd June, 1819.

“ The Duke of Kent does himself the pleasure of acknowledging Dr. Davis’s report of the prosperity and advancement of the Institution called the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, and begs to assure him, for the information of those most interested in the success of that Establishment, how warmly the Duchess and Himself appreciate the benevolent and liberal conduct of its supporters, and how deeply impressed they are with a sense of its superior utility, as extending its benefits without reservation as to time or means, to those whom it

professes to assist. The Duke and Duchess have received with pleasure from the committee, a copy of the Book of Rules, and her Royal Highness has gladly accepted the elegant design in satin, shewing the particular objects of the Charity, which cannot fail to excite peculiar attention in her mind, connected as she now feels herself with every object of benevolence in this country."

"The Duke considers it a subject of congratulation to the public that lectures on so important a branch of the healing art, as that of the Diseases of Children, should be given at the Dispensary, and he doubts not, that the consequences resulting from them will prove highly agreeable to the feelings of individuals and beneficial to the interests of the public."

To Dr. J. B. Davis.

After a communication so marked, so honourable to the Royal writer, and so calculated to increase in the minds of those who read it, the regret now felt for the loss of that illustrious personage, it may not be irrelevant, to transcribe a copy of an address at that period presented

to His Grace the Duke of Wellington, in order to preserve a record of the mode and manner in which the committee exerted itself in attempts to identify the Institution with the best feelings of all the great and the noble of whom this country can boast.

Universal Dispensary for Children,  
St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors' Commons,  
June 10, 1819.

“May it please your Grace,

I am desired by the Directors and Governors of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, to inclose your Grace a Book of the Rules of this Charity: and respectfully to solicit your Grace's patronage thereof.”

“If the great and distinguished personage whom the Directors and Governors thus address, as celebrated for his mildness and benevolence, as for his valour and unrivalled skill in war, would condescend to bestow his patronage on an Institution, exclusively designed for the relief of the sick Infant Poor of the metropolis and its vicinity, hitherto unprovided with prompt and particular medical assistance, the final prosperity of the

*Universal Dispensary for Children* would be accomplished. The broken heart under the most poignant domestic grief would be bound up among the poor, in every district, by the new means which would then be given to the committee, from the example and patronage of Him, whose well earned fame and popularity are as readily directed, during peace, to the promotion of the happiness and benefit of man, as they are directed in war, with success, to the dismay of the enemy, and the glory of conquest."

"Amidst the numerous charities which adorn our country, the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, coeval with the most momentous crisis—the most splendid page of British history—involving in its success, the happiness of the present and the rising generation, still struggles with the difficulty connected with a new Establishment; but if once adopted by your Grace, then might the Directors and Governors expect the complete success to which its objects and design so eminently entitle it."

"The committee beg leave in the name of the Directors and Governors to present Her Grace

the Duchess of Wellington with a frontispiece descriptive of the objects and designs of the Charity, on satin; and to ask permission, at the same time, for a deputation to attend your Grace's pleasure on the subject of the present application.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord Duke,

Your Grace's

Most obedient and most humble Servant,

J. B. DAVIS."

Whilst committing these facts to posterity, it must not be forgotten that numerous other applications were made to persons high in power and influence.

A letter, to the following purport, was sent to that amiable and benevolent individual, who presides at the head of our Church Establishment.

"To His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, &c. &c. &c.

“ May it please your Grace,

In the name and on the behalf of the Directors and Governors of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, I respectfully beg leave to introduce to your Grace's notice, an Institution, which is established in a central part of the metropolis for the important and humane purpose of affording medical and surgical relief, exclusively to the Sick Children of the necessitous poor, whose wants and sufferings are known to be extremely great, and of the most distressing kind.”

“ The evident utility of such a Charity, and the peculiar advantages which it holds out to Sick Indigent Children in affording them prompt assistance, in every case of danger, without waiting for the formality of a letter of recommendation, have already procured it many generous and respectable benefactors, by whose exertions it first was reared, and in June 1816 opened to the public, since when it has administered medical and surgical assistance to 3560 poor objects from all parts of the metropolis and its vicinity.”

“ In the name of the Directors and Governors

I request to lay before your Grace a book with the particulars of this Charity: and in soliciting the favour of your Grace's patronage, under whose auspicious sanction the general objects and welfare of this excellent Institution would be eminently promoted, to ask leave for a deputation to be allowed the honour of an audience with your Grace on the subject.

I am,

My Lord,

With the greatest respect,

Your Grace's

Most obedient, and

Most humble Servant,

**J. B. DAVIS."**

Universal Dispensary for Children,

June 20, 1819.

It must be added also, that letters of a similar purport were sent to many other distinguished individuals in both Houses of Parliament; and, indeed to every quarter from whence it was possible that support and patronage might be derived. Several of them, have subsequently proved successful. Among others we must not omit the following very handsome testimony from the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Chichester.

“ SIR,

Every Institution which has for its object the welfare of the poor, seems entitled to public countenance, and of course I can have no objection to grant the use of my church (particularly as the parish of St. Giles' in the Fields is benefitted by the Establishment in question) at the request of the Governors of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, for a sermon in aid of that charity; provided the churchwardens consent thereto, and have no prior claims upon them for similar purposes.

I am Sir,

Your very humble Servant,

J. CICEST.”

Mr. Henry Richards.

July 21, 1819.

P.S. You may make me, if you please, an annual subscriber to your Institution; but I am not likely, (should I live so long) to be in town before February.”

This letter will here be appropriately followed by two others, highly interesting, from an Honourable and Reverend Individual who had

long been active in disseminating a knowledge of the Institution among the higher classes of society. These letters were addressed, at a much earlier date, to the Founder of the Institution, and rather of a private nature than specifically historical; but we are now induced to give them publicity to do honour to the merits of the Honourable and Reverend Gentleman, their author, and as here more peculiarly illustrative of the passing events.

A representation from such a quarter as this, of the effects that may result to the community from this Institution, has already been productive of the greatest service, for its objects need only be introduced, to entitle it to be patronised by parents in the highest circles, in benevolent imitation of those illustrious and praiseworthy characters who have so long honoured the Institution with their active patronage.

To the benevolent writer himself, we cannot too often raise the voice of praise and gratitude, for his persevering exertions in giving publicity to our cause.

" 87, Charles Street, Berkeley Square,  
31st July,

" DEAR SIR,

A perusal of your inquiry into the causes of mortality among children, has made me more intimately acquainted with an Institution, which I consider of the greatest benefit to this country, and of which you have been the first promoter. It being my wish to give a benefaction of Twenty Guineas, I am desirous of knowing where it should be paid ; and as it will entitle me to have an unlimited number of patients on the books at a time, whether any particular form is to be observed in the recommendation.

" Having long been confined by a severe illness, you will, I hope, have the goodness to instruct me what steps I am to take. From the benevolence of your mind, I feel it unnecessary to apologize for this intrusion, as it will ultimately give encouragement to a plan that must be productive of the greatest advantage not to the present generation only, but to future generations.

I remain, dear Sir,

Very faithfully your's,

ANCHITEL GREY."

“ P. S. Please to direct your answer to the Honourable and Reverend A. Grey, Earl of Stamford’s, 97, Charles Street, Berkeley Square.”

This was soon after followed up by another communication from the same most worthy individual, for the insertion of which in this place, we trust it will be its own best apology, as pointing out to individuals of the highest rank, the extreme facility with which they may fulfil their benevolent intentions.

10th August, 1819.

Charles Street, Berkeley Square.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ Understanding that my benefaction of Twenty Guineas to the Universal Dispensary for the relief of Children, from their birth to twelve years of age entitles me to an unlimited number of recommendations, I am anxious to be informed, London not being my residence, whether I can authorize any person to sign letters in my absence. Should it be allowed, I shall appoint my father’s porter, Richard Gibbs, to sign them in my behalf, being a person upon whom I can safely rely.

“ You may be assured I shall do every thing

in my power to make the Institution more generally known, convinced that a knowledge of its beneficial effects is only required to entitle it to public approbation and support.

Believe me, dear Sir,

Most faithfully your's,

ANCHITEL GREY."

To Dr. J. B. Davis.

But it was not from the fashionable circles alone, that patronage and approbation were derived; medical men were now coming forward more prominently in its favour, as one proof of which we may insert the following letter from an individual too high in his profession, and in public estimation, to require any notice beyond his name.

"Lincoln's Inn Fields,  
31st July, 1819.

"SIR,

I request you to make my acknowledgments to the Directors and Governors of the Universal Dispensary for Children, for the honour which they have conferred by electing me an Honorary Director of the Charity.

I am Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY CLINE."

To Mr. Henry Richards.

It has already been stated that numerous applications had been made by the committee in those quarters where they might be useful to the Institution; but measures were more formally adopted now, under a precise resolution of the 26th of July, that a book of the Rules, accompanied by a letter from the Secretary, should be inclosed, and transmitted to such members of Parliament, and other public characters, as could be conveniently solicited to give their support and patronage to the Institution.

Extended support was indeed still more necessary, than at former periods, as there were not less than 562 individuals then on the books, out of a total of 6,141 admitted, of whom only 100 had died in the course of three years from the opening of the Charity.

Besides other high patronage to which the committee aspired, was the noble family of Beaufort. Aware of the very benevolent character which her Grace the Duchess had long borne in every class of society, the expectations of success in this quarter were considerable.

Of the good wishes of that amiable and noble

lady, and of the judicious mode in which she regulates her charities, we cannot present our readers with a better or a more useful specimen, than in her Grace's reply to the first application made to her in the name of the Institution.

“The Duchess of Beaufort begs to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from Mr. Richards, the Secretary to the *Universal Dispensary for Children*. She would have great pleasure in becoming one of its Patronesses, did not the expensive style of printing the book in which the Rules of the Society are printed, give her doubts of the economical dispensation of its funds; which she deems so radical a fault in a charitable institution as to induce her to decline having to do with its patronage, until that doubt be proved unfounded.”

Bodmington, August 10th. 1819.

Doubts of this kind, so highly conscientious in the mind of this illustrious lady, could not fail to convince the committee of the value of such patronage, and of the zealous co-operation which might be expected from Her Grace, provided those doubts could be removed, no time was lost

therefore in affording to the Duchess the necessary explanation, which was instantly, with the most polite promptitude, followed up by her Grace's consent to undertake the benevolent office of Patroness to the Institution.

“The Duchess of Beaufort begs to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Richards's letter of the 12th instant, and also to thank him for the detailed explanation he has been so good as to send her, which is certainly satisfactory, and which induces Her with great pleasure to accept of the Patronage of so useful and benevolent a society. She also begs Mr. Richards, to have the goodness to put her down for a yearly subscription which she incloses.”

Bodmington, August 16th. 1819.

Highly flattered by this very honourable testimonial of the value of the Institution, the committee proceeded on the 3rd of August, to resolve that it be recommended to the general meeting to elect the Duchess of Beaufort a Patroness of the Charity; and also to recommend that the Bishop of Chichester should be chosen a Vice

President, in compliment to his very ready patronage and support.

Another important feature of the Institution was also entered into upon the same occasion, namely, that it should be recommended to the next general meeting to appoint Honorary Directors of the Charity, consisting of physicians and surgeons of the first eminence in the metropolis.

After discharging those debts of honour to such illustrious supporters of the Institution, it was with extreme regret that the committee was called upon to notice a communication announcing the sudden and premature death of Mr. Wasdell the Extra Surgeon. Upon this melancholy occasion the committee recorded on the minutes the great loss which the Institution had sustained by Mr. Wasdell's decease, having not only to deplore this event, in common with all those who were best acquainted with his worth and merits; but, in particular, for his great zeal and exertions in behalf of the Charity.

Although the loss of this very able coadjutor now produced a vacancy upon the official esta-

blishment, the committee did not think it proper instantly to proceed to fill it up ; and in order to guide the Directors and Governors in forming a judgment as to the expediency of doing so, on a future day, it was directed that the apothecary should furnish an account of the number of surgical patients in attendance daily at the Dispensary, and whether that number had increased or diminished within the period of the preceding three months, on which a report might be grounded to the general meeting.\*

\* To give a precise idea of the state of the Institution at this period, we subjoin a report published in the papers of the day.

*“ Universal Dispensary for Children, St. Andrew’s Hill, Doctors’ Commons. Supported by voluntary contributions. Established for the purpose of affording prompt Medical Aid to the Children of the Necessitous Poor, from the period of their birth to the age of twelve years, from all parts of the metropolis and its vicinity. Open in cases of danger to a first application for relief, without a recommendation.*

This Institution, founded in the year 1816, was opened to the public in the month of June of that year, since when it has afforded Medical and Surgical Assistance to 6,389 sick necessitous Children, of whom a great proportion must have perished but for the prompt and timely aid of this Institution. The committee begs to draw the attention of the public to the following account of patients, taken

In the month of September the admissions had increased to 6659, but the number of patients on from the apothecary's register, and to the medical reports published on these numerous cases every third month in the Medico-Chirurgical Journal, by the physicians and surgeons:—

Number of patients admitted to the 31st August	-	6,398
Whereof have been cured and relieved	-	5,473
Have died	- - - - -	105
Have been vaccinated	- - - - -	138
On the books and under cure	- - - - -	632
		<hr/>
Total	-	6,398

Adverting to the advantages and peculiar utility of this Institution to the families of the indigent and labouring poor, and to the great good already effected by it, the committee flatters itself, that the public will not suffer the charity to languish for want of a renewal of those means by which it has been hitherto so liberally supplied.

Subscriptions are received by Sir Thomas Bell, Treasurer, St. Swithin's-lane; Mr. Henry Richards, Secretary, 9, Old Jewry; and at the Dispensary. N.B. Annual Governor, One Guinea; Life Governor, Ten Guineas; Annual Director, Two Guineas; Life Director, Twenty Guineas. A Governor paying One Guinea a year has a right to have two patients under cure at the same time; so that he is enabled to relieve Twenty-four poor children in the course of the year—probably more. A Governor paying Two Guineas a year is enabled to have Four patients under cure at the same time, and may relieve forty-eight poor children, or more, in the course of the year."

the books had in some measure diminished in the course of the month, being now reduced to 600, or a diminution of 32.

“Subjoined is a list of new Subscribers since the last Anniversary Festival, in March 1819.

Annual.				Annual.					
£ s. d.				£ s. d.					
Dr. Lushington	-	2	2	0	R. H. Gordon, Esq.	2	2	0	
Mrs. Lushington	-	1	1	0	T. C. Medwin, Esq.	1	1	0	
Mr. Seares	-	1	1	0	P. Medwin, Esq.	1	1	0	
W. Woodward, Esq.	1	1	0	S. Smith, Esq.	-	1	1	0	
Dr. Addison	-	1	1	0	E. Gibbons, Esq.	-	1	1	0
Mrs. Barlin	-	1	1	0	Mrs. Bowles	-	1	1	0
Thomas Brown, Esq.	1	1	0	Mr. Allen	-	1	1	0	
Benjn. Bullock, Esq.	1	1	0	W. G. Peyton, Esq.	1	1	0		
Her Grace the Duchess				— Hart, Esq.	-	1	1	0	
of Beaufort	-	1	1	0	Capt. Buckoll	-	1	1	0
Mr. Graham	-	1	1	0	Mrs. Buckoll	-	1	1	0
W. C. Dendy, Esq.	2	2	0	Miss Buckoll	-	1	1	0	
Mrs. Dendy	-	1	1	0	J. Bonner, Esq.	-	1	1	0
Mrs. S. Dendy	-	1	1	0	Mrs. Bonner	-	1	1	0
John Dendy, Esq.	-	1	1	0	Mrs. Dubbins	-	1	1	0
Rev. T. Sadler	-	1	1	0	Miss Dubbins	-	1	1	0
Rev. T. Williams	-	1	1	0	Miss E. Dubbins	-	1	1	0
Bishop of Chichester	1	1	0	Mr. R. Boules	-	1	1	0	
S. Peacock, Esq.	-	1	1	0	Master J. Boules	-	1	1	0
J. Jefferson, Esq.	-	1	1	0	Mrs. Williams	-	1	1	0
W. Medwin, Esq.	-	1	1	0	Mrs. Sadler	-	1	1	0
W. Copeland, Esq.	2	2	0	Miss Sadler	-	1	1	0	
T. Walker, Esq.	-	1	1	0	Rich. Stephens, Esq.	1	1	0	
Mrs. T. Walker	-	1	1	0	Mrs. Stephens	-	1	1	0
J. Walker, Esq.	-	1	1	0	H. Allenby, Esq.	-	1	1	0
T. Seagar, Esq.	-	1	1	0	M. Gibbons, Esq.	-	1	1	0
Mrs. S. Peacock	-	1	1	0	Miss Gibbons	-	1	1	0

H. RICHARDS, Sec.”

We have to notice, respecting the month of October in this year, that on the usual committee night, in pursuance of the 7th Rule of the Institution, a list was drawn up, of the names of the eight gentlemen of the committee, who had attended the fewest times in the course of the year, and a new list formed of Governors, in the opinion of the committee, the most eligible for the ensuing twelve months. Four auditors were also named, agreeably to the 10th Rule.

The committee returned for 1820, for the approbation of the general meeting, in November, consisted of the following gentlemen :

JOHN ABBOTT, ESQ.

THOMAS ALEXANDER, ESQ.

J. B. AVELING, ESQ.

JOHN BANKS, ESQ.

JOHN BARKER, ESQ.

JOSEPH BARBER, ESQ.

SAMUEL BRANDRAM, ESQ.

ROBERT BROMLEY, ESQ.

WILLIAM COPELAND, ESQ.

JAMES COWIE, ESQ.

THOMAS COURTNEY, ESQ.

T. HENRY DAVIS, ESQ.

G. F. DAVIS, ESQ.

B. G. DAVIS, ESQ.

JAMES DEANS, ESQ.

RICHARD DENDY, ESQ.

SAMPSON HANBURY, ESQ.

ROBERT HEDGER, ESQ.

JOHN JEFFERSON, ESQ.

THOMAS MARSHALL, ESQ.

WILLIAM MARSHALL, ESQ.

JAMES ORLTON, ESQ.

EDWARD REIKES, ESQ.

S. W. SWEET, ESQ.

JOSEPH WALKER, ESQ.

The Auditors proposed, were,

E. R. ADAMS, ESQ.

J. T. GELLIBRAND, ESQ.

GEORGE GIMBER, ESQ.

JAMES COWIE, ESQ.

JAMES DEANS, ESQ.

Several internal regulations were also adopted; one of which was that in future a consultation should be held in all cases of difficulty, where

the Physicians *and* Surgeons should deem it necessary.

We have already mentioned that directions had been given, about two months previous, to the apothecary to furnish a list of surgical patients in daily attendance, in order to ascertain whether that list was increasing, or diminishing. In consequence of that, a report was given in to the present committee, stating that the new cases of surgical patients, during the past month amounted to 45; upon which it was resolved that the committee did not then deem it expedient to recommend the appointment of an Extra Surgeon to the vacancy occasioned by Mr. Wasdell's death, not only because the duty of that officer had for some time been performed gratuitously and with the highest satisfaction, by Mr. Dendy, who had handsomely offered to continue his services, but also because the number of patients with surgical cases, was not more than could be duly attended to by the existing establishment.

The committee now brought forward a list of Honorary Directors, consisting of some of the first physicians and surgeons of the metropolis,

agreeably to the suggestion of the last general meeting; when the following names were unanimously put upon the list of nomination;

SIR H. HALFORD, BART. M.D.

SIR GILBERT BLANE, BART., M.D.

SIR F. MILMAN, BART., M.D.

DR. JOHN LATHAM, President of the Royal College  
of Physicians of London.

DR. MATTHEW BAILLIE

DR. WILLIAM BABINGTON

DR. MARCET

DR. WILLIAM HEBERDEN

DR. R. C. PEMBERTON

SIR EVERARD HOME, BART.

HENRY CLINE, ESQ.

SIR WILLIAM BLIZARD, KNT.

JOHN ABERNETHY, ESQ.

ASTLEY COOPER, ESQ.

The report of Results at the close of this month was extremely encouraging; for although 251 patients had been added to the number of 600 under cure at the close of September, yet the number on the books was now diminished to 315; in fact, during October, not less than 527

had been discharged, cured and relieved, with only three deaths out of the whole number, taking into the total amount six who had been vaccinated.

The committee was next occupied in making preliminary arrangements for the approaching festival; and had adopted measures to have the plans brought under the sanction of the general meeting, which took place on the 3rd November, Sir Thomas Bell in the chair, during which the proposed list of the committee for the ensuing year was confirmed, together with the list of auditors.

The meeting then proceeded to adopt the proposal of appointing Her Grace the Duchess of Beaufort, a Patroness, and the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Chichester a Vice President. The Secretary was directed to prepare for the next committee a list of the churches at which it was presumed he had caused by an application to the rectors and churchwardens, the printed resolutions of the general meeting in November 1818, to be affixed, in order to more effectually further the object of procuring churches in succession for the Charity.

But one great object of the meeting, and of the committee, was to identify His Royal Highness, the now lamented Duke of Kent, personally, as much as possible, with the Institution. Accordingly it was unanimously resolved, that His Royal Highness should be solicited to fix a day for the Festival of 1820, in February, or early in March; for which purpose a copy of the resolution was ordered to be officially forwarded to Sir Thomas Bell, who was requested by the meeting to communicate with that patriotic Prince, and to present him also with a list of the Stewards, in order to ascertain His Royal Highness's pleasure, in regard to presiding at that Anniversary.

The meeting did not separate without passing a marked vote of thanks to Sir Thomas Bell, for his kind assistance and great attention to the interests of the Institution, in addition to his very impartial conduct on that day in the chair. It is necessary to record also, that an approving resolution took place in regard to the list, already given in, of Honorary Directors.

To afford an illustration of the exertions of the committee, in furtherance of the funds, and with

a view to extend the patronage of the Charity, it is incumbent to state, that on the 6th of November, applications were made to the Rev. Mr Roberts, Rector of Saint Bartholomew the Great, and the Churchwardens, for the use of that Sacred Edifice, which was acceded to; on the 11th to the Rev. Henry White, and the Churchwardens of Allhallows, Barking, from whom consent was readily obtained for the Anniversary Sermon to be preached by the Rev. Mr. Bellamy: on the 14th of November, to the Rev. Mr. Mann, Rector of St. Saviour's, Southwark; and on the 18th of the same month, to the Rev. Mr. Beresford, Rector, and to the Churchwardens of St. Andrew, Holborn, for the use of that pulpit.

But it was not to the Church alone, that the exertions of the committee were directed. On the 22d of November, Sir Thomas Bell was waited on, to know the result of his application to His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, to grace the next Anniversary with his presence in the Chair.

It was with deep regret then understood, that, notwithstanding His Royal Highness's wish

to undertake whatever might be useful to the Institution; yet such was his own state of health and that of his amiable Consort, and of their infant, an heiress presumptive to the British Throne, that a residence in an atmosphere more genial than the wintry sky of the metropolis, made a visit to Devonshire desirable.

That regret was for a temporary deprivation of the Royal Countenance—alas! little was it thought, that even the Royal Promise would have been unavailing, and that remorseless death would step in, before the proposed celebration of the Festival, to snatch him for ever from those scenes of Charity, which he had so often gladdened with his presence!

Finding it thus impracticable to have His Royal Highness's company, measures were undertaken, through the mediation of Mr. Sheriff Rothwell, to solicit the Lord Mayor, the President ex officio, for the time being, to take the Chair at the Festival.

A polite offer having at this time been made by J. S. Gaskoin, Esq., a new but zealous friend of

the Charity, to solicit the patronage of Her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta, a letter with a book of the rules was forwarded by him for presentation to that benevolent Princess.

The patronage of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, now our most Gracious Sovereign George the Fourth was also aspired to; and a humble memorial addressed to that illustrious personage, through Sir Benjamin Bloomfield, accompanied with a book of the Rules and Regulations of the Charity.

As early as the 26th, in order to carry the resolutions adopted at the general meeting into effect, relative to the appointment of Honorary Directors, the proper communications had been conveyed to Sir Henry Halford, Sir Francis Milman, Sir G. Blane, and Sir Everard Home, Baronets; to Sir William Blizard, Knt.; to Drs. Baillie, Pemberton, Marcet, Babington, Heberden and Latham; to John Abernethy, Henry Cline, and Astley Cooper, Esqrs.

The communication to Dr. Baillie was instantly followed up by a generous donation from that eminent Physician of Ten Guineas, accompanied by the following very gratifying letter.

“ SIR,

I request that you will communicate to the Governors of your useful Charity, my thanks for the honour which they have done me, in electing me one of the Honorary Directors; and I send at the same time a donation of Ten Guineas, to promote the interests of the Charity.

I remain, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

M. BAILLIE.”

Lower Grosvenor Street,

Nov. 30, 1819.

To the Secretary of the Universal Dispensary for Children.\*

\* The following extract from a paper of that day may tend more fully to awaken public attention to the value of the Institution.

“ *Universal Dispensary for Children.*—Could a doubt exist in the mind of any one of the great and increasing importance of this Institution to society, let him go to the Institution and become an eye-witness of the deplorable state of the objects when they are admitted; let him visit the families of the poor where the influence of the Charity has been felt, and let him contrast their situation with the situation of those poor families where the want of timely medical aid for their children is experienced; let him visit the Institution, and witness the zeal and exertions of the medical officers; let him examine into the scale of expenditure; and,

Cheered also by a high sacerdotal testimony to the character and objects of the Institution, the committee now looked with eager expectation to the support of many members of the Right Reverend Bench; and on the 21st of December was most highly gratified by a liberal donation from the Lord Bishop of London, with an assurance of His Lordship's patronage.

“The Bishop of London presents his compliments to the Secretary of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*—and has the pleasure of sending a donation of Ten Guineas (by cheque on the other side) for the use of that Charity.”

London, December 21st. 1819.”

To the Secretary of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*.

lastly, let him inspect the subjoined statement, and bring the relief afforded home to his own district, to the families of his own servants, neighbours, and dependents!!

Between June, 1816, and December 1, 1819, there have been admitted into the Dispensary from 116 parishes in London and its neighbourhood, no less than 7162 children—

Whereof have been cured and relieved	- - - -	6457
Have died	- - - - . - - . - - - -	118
Have been vaccinated	- - - - - - - -	291
Are at this time upon the books, and under cure	-	296
		<hr/>
Total	-	7162

An application had, about this period, been made to one of the active Patronesses, Her Grace the Duchess of Beaufort, for her influence with the Duke to become a Patron of the Institution ; an application to which she acceded with her accustomed benevolence, and replied to, instantly in the following manner.

“ The Duchess of Beaufort presents her compliments to Mr. Richards, and in answer to the letter she received from him two days ago, she has the pleasure to acquaint him that the Duke of Beaufort will most willingly become one of the Vice Patrons to the *Universal Dispensary for Children*.”

Bodmington, December 29th. 1819.”

This very ready compliance on the part of the Duke and Duchess of Beaufort gave a double value to the favour conferred, and rendered that which was in itself an act of benevolence to the Institution, also a point of personal obligation to the committee thus so handsomely rewarded for its exertions.

The committee took the first opportunity at

its meeting on the 29th of December, to pay the proper tributes of respect to the Right Honourable and Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of London, and to Dr. Baillie, for their handsome donations, by coming to a resolution to recommend them to the general meeting as Vice Presidents of the Institution.

At the same meeting a sub-committee was appointed to take into consideration the several duties appertaining to the office of Secretary, and to report thereon to the monthly committee. The report of patients at the close of the year afforded great satisfaction in its results, the number admitted amounting to 7367, out of whom only 126 had died, whilst 6610 had been cured and relieved, and 301 vaccinated.

In finances too, the prospect was agreeable, yet by no means such as to lead the committee to the slightest diminution of exertion in procuring both subscriptions and patronage for its future support. The balance from the preceding year was 124*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*; to which the sums accruing from the Festival, from Annual Subscriptions, Donations, and Charity Sermons, equal to 461*l.* 14*s.* being added, gave a total of 595*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* : whilst

the Annual Expenditure amounted to 452*l.* 8*s.* leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of 163*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*

This indeed was little more than sufficient for the commencing expences of the ensuing year; but great hopes were entertained from the next Festival, and also from an increased number of Charity Sermons in support of the Funds; their number during the past year having only amounted to two, in addition to the Anniversary Sermon; one at St. Antholin's, Watling Street, by the Reverend W. Parker, A.M. in June, by permission of the Rector, the Reverend Richard Johnson, B.A.; and the other in December by the Reverend F. D. Lempriere, B.A. at the Church of St. Bartholomew the Great, by permission of its worthy Rector the Reverend Mr. Roberts.

Thus closed the year 1819, leading to a year of the highest importance in the history of the Charity, whether we consider the increased number of patients, the increased interest and patronage, or the awful events, and royal favours connected with its progress.

## PROGRESS

AND

## PROCEEDINGS,

In 1820.

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Early in 1820, the highest characters in the medical world began to notice the Dispensary in a more marked manner than hitherto, cheerfully accepting the offices so respectfully tendered by the general meeting.

On the 7th of January, Dr. Latham, President of the Royal College, sent a handsome donation, accompanied by the following letter.

“Harley Street, 7th January, 1820.

“SIR,

I ought long ago to have acknowledged your letter, which informed me that the Directors and Governors of the “*Universal Dispensary for Children*,” had done me the honour of electing me an Honorary Director of the Charity: you will be pleased to make my acknowledgments, and

to request the Board to accept the subjoined check for the general purposes of the Institution.

I have the honour to be, &c.

J. LATHAM."

The Secretary of the Universal Dispensary for Children.

The next day brought a flattering testimonial from the venerable Bishop of Lincoln, now Bishop of Winchester.

"Buckden Palace, January 8th 1820.

"SIR,

I beg leave to inform you that I shall with great pleasure accept the office of Vice President of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

G. LINCOLN."

H. Richards, Esq. Secretary.

All the means practicable were now employed to procure a full attendance at the Festival, to be held on the 2nd of February: as well as at the Anniversary Sermon to be preached on Sunday the 30th, by the Reverend J. Jackson, A.M. at Christ Church, Surry.

It is with heartfelt pleasure that we next have to record an extension of Royal Patronage to the Institution, in the person of Her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta, announced in the following letter.

“ 5, Cleveland Court, 1st January.

“ DEAR SIR,

By the command of Her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta, I have the honour to state Her Royal Highness's most gracious and benevolent intention to protect and patronize your excellent Institution, the “ *Universal Dispensary for Children*,”—And I assure you it is with feelings of infinite gratification that I am honoured by being allowed to communicate such condescension and patronage to so very useful and meritorious a Charity.

Believe me to be, dear Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN S. GASKOIN.”

Dr. Davis.

But this accession of Royal favour and protection was fatally clouded for the moment by the demise of His Royal Highness the late Duke of Kent, which took place on the 23rd of January,

depriving the Institution of an illustrious and benevolent Patron, who had long displayed, in so many Charities, the noblest instances of beneficence. Well, indeed, was it said that scarcely a public charity in the metropolis was known to him to exist, which did not, in some way or other, derive benefit from his ready patronage. To most he contributed, and over many he presided; to the *Universal Dispensary for Children* he had done honour from its earliest commencement!!

On this melancholy and ever to be regretted event being officially known, measures were instantly adopted to postpone the Anniversary Festival, but the Sermon was preached on the 30th as was originally intended. In proof of the respect entertained by the committee, for the memory of His late Royal Highness, it proceeded on the 30th to record with the deepest concern, and in the name of the Directors and Governors of the Institution, the loss of the late illustrious Patron, and zealous co-founder, of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*; for, under his high and distinguished auspices, the Charity had its origin, and by his uniform solicitude and

protection since that period, it had obtained a success and character among the charitable institutions of the present age; which, whilst they confirmed the utility and importance of its designs, might well be said also to reflect a splendour on the memory of that departed Prince, whose active and extended philanthropy cannot fail to form a bright and lasting example worthy the imitation of Britons for ages yet to come.

Whilst, however, paying a tribute due to departed patronage, the committee was not unmindful of that living worth which still graced the list of supporters, and accordingly it was resolved that His Grace the Duke of Beaufort, and the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Lincoln should be recommended to the general meeting as Vice Presidents of the Institution—those distinguished characters having already consented with their usual benevolence to accept that office.

At this meeting also the appointment of Chaplains to the Charity was proposed and approved, as a likely plan to afford it permanent service.

Next to which, the consent of the Reverend E. Rice, B.A., one of the Classical Masters of Christ's Hospital was announced to preach on the 13th of February, at the parish Church of St. Magnus, London Bridge.

On the 1st of February the resolution expressive of the sentiments of the Directors and Governors of the Charity, in regard to His late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent,\* was inserted in the public prints, and a few days after the Funeral, the Anniversary Festival was announced for the 25th of February; for which the

\* *Universal Dispensary for Children, St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors' Commons. Established 1816.*

“The Directors and Governors of this Institution record, with the deepest concern, the death of His late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent and Strathearn, late illustrious Patron and zealous Co-founder of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*; for under his high and distinguished auspices this Charity had its origin—and by his uniform solicitude and protection since, it has attained a success and character among the charitable Institutions of the present age which, whilst they confirm the importance and utility of its designs, also reflect a splendour on the memory of a departed Prince, whose active and extended philanthropy, will be a bright and lasting example for the imitation of Britons for ages to come.”

committee was still making the most strenuous exertions.

It was pleasing indeed to observe, how much public characters were now beginning to be generally interested in the Institution, in evidence of which, we shall here beg leave to present two specimens, illustrative of those feelings, from two of its most generous benefactors.

“ MY DEAR SIR,

The *Universal Dispensary for Children* must thrive, with the unremitting attention its supporters pay to its interest. I wish I could say positively, that it will be in my power to attend you on the 25th inst.; but I am afraid the attendance of every member will be required at the House of Commons on that day. I will use my utmost endeavours to join you at the Festival on that day; and, if I should be disappointed in

“ That a copy of the above, as a tribute to the memory of that illustrious and benevolent Prince, be published in the daily prints.”

Feb. 1, 1820.

having that honour, you may be assured of my good wishes for the success of the Institution, and of my mite to encourage the benefit that must accrue from it, to the poor of this great metropolis and its vicinity.

I have the honour to be,

My dear Sir,

Your's, sincerely,

W. MELLISH."

Bishopsgate Street, 13th Feb. 1820.

Dr. Davis.

Dunham Massey, Feb. 17, 1820.

" DEAR SIR,

Upon my arrival here, Tuesday night, I found a large parcel which had been forwarded to Dunham Massey. I am very sorry it will not be in my power to attend the Anniversary Dinner on the 25th. I am happy to hear so favourable a report of the progress of the Institution, which must ever have my best wishes. Many thanks for your kind enquiries after my health, which I am happy to say is much improved, though not re-established.

Believe me, dear Sir,

Very faithfully your's,

ANCHITEL GREY."

Dr. Davis.

These letters sufficiently manifest the feeling, with which the exertions and applications of the committee were received, preparatory to the day of the Festival, some of the transactions of which it will be interesting to notice, not only as illustrative of the subject itself, but to convince the public at large—if such conviction should in any quarter be necessary—that the *Universal Dispensary for Children* is now supported in its objects and designs, by a patronage of the highest order, and by a conviviality that renders its Anniversaries not only extremely respectable, but gratifying to the most fastidious—not scenes of inebriety, but of decorous hilarity, tempered by good manners and benevolence.

On Friday the 25th, as intended, the *Fourth* Anniversary Festival of this Charity took place at the City of London Tavern. Soon after five o'clock Alderman Thorp, M.P. V.P. entered the room and took the Chair; he was surrounded by William Williams, Esq. M.P., Thomas Wilson, Esq. M.P., Sir Thomas Bell, W. Sykes, Esq., and several eminent Divines, and supported by a most respectable assemblage of other Directors and Governors, among whom we recognized

S. W. Sweet, Esq., Huntly Bacon, Esq., Benjamin Hawes, Esq., G. By, Esq., J. W. Buckle, Esq., E. R. Adams, Esq., &c. &c. &c. After the usual toasts were drunk, letters were produced by the Chairman from her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta, His Grace the Duke of Beaufort, the Bishops of London and Lincoln, the President of the Royal College of Physicians, and Dr. Baillie, announcing their patronage of, and donations to, the Institution.

“Mr. Alderman Thorp then addressed the meeting on the occasion on which they had assembled. He reminded them of the great utility of this Charity to the Sick Infant Poor, the public and private point of view in which it was to be regarded: first, as respected the health and happiness of the individual poor; and secondly, as regarded the strength and vigour of the population of the metropolis, among the lower classes of the community. The merits and results of the Charity were great and conclusive. He had been an early promoter of it, and was truly gratified to find, that the success of the Institution had exceeded his most sanguine expectation. The Alderman begged to call upon the founder,

for his report of particulars and progress of the Charity ; but first proposed for a toast, “Success to the *Universal Dispensary for Children*,” which was drunk with great applause.”

“ Dr. Davis rose, in compliance with the call of the worthy Chairman, but found it impossible to offer any account of the progress and results of the Charity, without bringing to their painful recollection, the loss which the Charity had recently sustained, in that illustrious personage, his late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, the benevolent Patron, now no more ! As the zealous and benevolent protector of so many charitable Institutions—as the friend of man—as the champion of humanity—as the patron of science—as the co-founder of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, he was more exalted than by Royal birth and lineage ; and he was certain that the Directors and Governors would never cease to feel a deep regret for that truly good and great Prince.

Although the objects of this Institution had been stated at previous Anniversaries, yet still the Doctor conceived it to be his duty, to explain

the nature and designs of the Charity, to those new friends who had favoured that meeting with their presence. The *Universal Dispensary for Children* was founded in 1816, for the sole purpose of affording prompt and effectual medical aid to the children of the necessitous poor, from the period of their birth to the age of 12 years, from all parts of the metropolis and its vicinity, in order to go on diminishing the great mortality of the children of the poor, from a want of that *prompt and particular medical aid*, which the acute and rapid nature of their diseases demands ; and to obviate, at an early period, by a system for the prevention of disease, and for the improvement of the domestic management of the health of the infant poor, that premature infirmity and decline—that deformity and weakness of constitution, which disqualified them for labour and fatigue. This Institution had a two-fold object—to prevent disease—to remove disease when formed. For the former purpose, papers of instruction, as to the means to be employed for preserving health, were gratuitously circulated among the poor ; for the latter, admission was given to the sick infant poor, without any recommendation, in cases of emergency, and without reservation as to time or

means, so that the most effectual help was administered without delay, both by night as well as by day, to obviate the fatal consequences which the rapid march of diseases in children so invariably risks. Since the opening of this Institution, a period of three years and a half, 7,820 sick infant poor had been admitted, of whom 7,030 had been cured and relieved, 300 had been vaccinated, 130 only had died, and there remained at that time upon the books and under cure, about 360 patients. In the course of one year, 2,000 of the printed rules for the domestic management of children's health had been distributed among the parents of those sick infant poor who had been admitted into the Charity. The progress of the Institution was in all respects satisfactory. The first physicians and first surgeons of the metropolis honoured it with their patronage. It had doubled the numbers of its supporters in one year. From the east it had travelled to the west. Splendour marked its course. If the state of the Charity now were compared with its state at the last Anniversary, its progress and success would be evident. The fight had been fought with great profit. The poor no longer lamented the want of effectual

medical relief for their suffering offspring. The hand of mercy and benevolence had interposed to rescue man, in the infant period of existence, from misery and pain."

"After a few other observations, which do not require specific record, the Doctor continued his statement of the objects, nature, advantages, and results of this Institution, by anticipating great support on a future day from those little individuals whom the Institution had protected and saved during their tender years from the tempest of the winter, and by strongly recommending the Charity to the continued care and countenance of those philanthropists who had brought it to its present eminence and utility."

"On the health of the Presidents and Vice Presidents being drunk, Sir Thomas Bell took occasion to address the meeting for the purpose of making a report on the state of the finances. The account he had to tender was still more satisfactory than at the last Festival. The Directors and Governors would call to mind, that the funds had progressively improved for two

years. He once had 13s. in hand to report, but now he had to state, that the balance in his hands in favour of the Institution on the 31st of December last was 175*l.*; since when he had received several sums, making the amount at this time 250*l.* When the Governors considered that all the bills against the Institution were discharged, and that such a balance remained in hand at the end of three years and a half from the opening of the Dispensary, although the number of objects relieved had greatly increased, they could but be inspired with a growing confidence in the utility and success of the Charity. Amidst all the great and splendid charities of the metropolis, he knew of no one in which such great exertions had been made as in this. It was a solitary instance of so much good being done in so short a time and at so small an expense. He trusted that it would not be permitted to languish. He saw those around him who would strive to perpetuate it. Whilst he hoped the annual income of the Institution would be increased, he would also aspire to think a fund would be formed to enable the committee to take a building more suited than the present to its patriotic and extensive designs."

On the health of the Chairman being drunk amidst much applause—

“Alderman Thorp rose, and in a neat and appropriate speech returned thanks for the honour done him; and in continuation begged to propose the health of the Stewards, whose exertions had been crowned with such success; and to thank them for the generous efforts they had made on behalf of the Charity. After an expression of great approbation.”—

“J. W. Buckle, Esq. rose to return thanks for the honour which the company had conferred upon the Stewards. He was gratified to find that the worthy Alderman had proposed the health of the Stewards thus early, as it gave to each Steward an opportunity of seeking for a successor, and to any Gentleman present a similar opportunity of offering himself as a volunteer. Mr. Buckle made some very appropriate observations on the happy results of the day, and took his seat amidst loud applause from the whole company.”

The health of the committee was next proposed, when

“Samuel W. Sweet, Esq. rose to return thanks on its behalf. In the course of an appropriate and energetic speech he expatiated with great effect on the comparative extent of aid which it was in the power of each Governor to afford by his single subscription. This, he said, was owing to a judicious economy in the expenditure, and to the pains taken, in particular, by the founder and the other medical and surgical officers to prescribe with as little expense as possible, and to the general interests they displayed in behalf of the success of the Institution. A Governor paying One Guinea a year, has a right to have two patients under cure at the same time; so that he is enabled to relieve twenty-four poor children in the course of the year, probably more. A Governor paying Two Guineas a year, is enabled to have four patients under cure at the same time; and may relieve forty-eight poor children, or more, in the course of the year.”

The health of the Surgeons followed.

“Mr. Dendy, in returning thanks, regretted that this duty had devolved on one who was so incompetent to discharge it, and that the common

circumstance, of those who feel the most possessing the least capability of expressing their feelings, applied to no one more than to himself at that moment. He felt it would be a mark of extreme presumption in him to attempt to offer any observations in addition to the very satisfactory appeal that evening, presented to the company by his friend Dr. Davis, though no one could more conscientiously subscribe to the truth of his assertions. He begged to assure them, that no one would more readily or heartily co-operate with him in professional exertions to extend the circumference of its utility. It, therefore, became him to be silent on the occasion, being conscious that whatever was necessary to elucidate its object, had been already stated, and equally conscious that in an assembly composed of such high respectability, an occasion for Charity need only to be hinted at, and the consummation of the act would be certain. Through their (the Governors) exertions, a garden had been formed promising in its fruits health and happiness to the inhabitants of the abodes of obscurity and indigence; be it then their care to nourish and water the plants, which benevolence and humanity had raised, and might they all be rewarded

by the satisfaction of seeing them flourish *universally*. After reflecting on the kindness he had received from the Governors on his late election, and assuring them of the sincerity of the gratitude he felt for their expressions and acts of friendship on that occasion, he concluded by repeating the thanks of his colleague and himself for the honour that evening conferred upon them, and by assuring them that he felt the highest pride and happiness in being connected with them in the interests of their Institution, of contributing his individual efforts towards the relief of the miseries of the poor—of adding one single flowret to the wreath of humanity.”

The next toast was, “The Stewards elect,” for which thanks were appropriately returned.

The Chairman then left the Chair, to which Robert Hedger, Esq. was unanimously called.

The health of the Apothecary and Secretary followed, after which the company broke up highly gratified with the entertainment of the evening, and with the new resources in donations, and in Governors procured for the Charity.

Such were the formal proceedings on a day so justly important to the welfare of this charitable Institution—another day successfully devoted to the cause of charity.

At the ensuing committee, the 28th of February, resolutions were entered into, which fully manifested the determination of the gentlemen composing that board not to relax in the slightest degree in their endeavours to enlarge the funds of the Institution, which they were the more anxious to do in the hope of being enabled soon to take a House better adapted to the purposes of the Institution than the present one.

The first of these resolutions was that a memorial should be addressed to the Corporation of the City of London, setting forth the nature and objects of the Charity, its great utility to the sick infant poor, the relief which it had, up to that period, afforded to parishes in the City by its prompt assistance to the Sick Children of the Necessitous, and praying therein for the countenance and co-operation of the Lord Mayor, the Alderman and Common Council, in furtherance

of the success of the Charity, and an extension of its funds.

The resolution further directed that the Secretary should solicit Sir Thomas Bell, and Mr. Alderman Thorp, to join in the application, and should receive their directions as to the mode of proceeding with the petition.

But the views of the committee did not stop here. The Institution was considered as one at least as deserving of, and as likely to gain Royal Patronage, as any honoured by the Sovereign's name. In this sentiment therefore, it was resolved that a Memorial, before alluded to, descriptive of the nature, objects and utility of the Institution, with a statement of its beneficial results to the metropolis and its vicinity, embracing in it a respectful solicitation of the countenance and support of His most excellent Majesty King George the IV. should be forwarded to Sir Benjamin Bloomfield, in the name of the Directors and Governors, with a request that he would be pleased to submit the same to His Majesty's gracious consideration.

“TO HIS MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY GEORGE THE  
FOURTH.

*The Memorial of the Directors and Governors of  
the Universal Dispensary for Children.*

Most humbly sheweth,

That in 1816 the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, was founded under the auspices of Your Majesty's late Royal Brother, of illustrious memory, His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, for the purpose of diminishing the frightful mortality which has annually occurred among the Infant Poor of the metropolis, for years prior to its establishment, for want of seasonable medical help; and also, for promoting the humane and national work of preserving in health and vigour Your Majesty's poorer subjects among this class of individuals, nearly 10,000 of whom have been rescued from disease and suffering, and restored to health, in three years and a half—a work which the Directors and Governors most humbly pray to bring before Your Majesty for Your Majesty's most gracious approval, as being a work of the first importance,

to the metropolis, in point of population, the strength and vigour of the mass of the people—to the individual poor, as respects their industry and ability to provide for themselves and obtain their own livelihoods.

That, although the importance and utility of this Institution have likewise attracted the patronage of their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Sussex and Prince Leopold of Saxe Cobourg, their Royal Highnesses Princess Augusta and the Duchess of Kent, and subsequently the attention of the Bishops of London, Chichester, Winchester, Chester, Durham, Gloucester, Ely, Peterborough and Cloyne, the Dukes of Beaufort, Marlborough, Richmond, Rutland, Grafton and Devonshire, the Marquis of Camden, the Duchess of Beaufort, the Duchess of Buccleugh, the Earl and Countess Dowager of Stamford and Warrington, the Honourable and Reverend A. Grey, Dr. Baillie, and Dr. Latham the President of the Royal College of Physicians, &c. Your Majesty's memorialists will ever have deeply to lament the loss of a zealous and benevolent Patron and Co-Founder in His late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, and feel conscious at this moment in particular, of the want of that pro-

tection from their Sovereign which alone would give dignity and permanent effect, to their benevolent Institution, the sole object of the establishment of which, is the preservation of the lives of Your Majesty's poorer subjects, the vigour of the population, the happiness and welfare of the lower classes of the community.

That, previous to the founding of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, the British metropolis was without a public establishment for the sick children of the poor, and has led to the establishment of a local Institution of this description in another part of the capital.

That, the Directors and Governors humbly pray that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased to afford your Royal Patronage to this Institution.

And your memorialists will ever pray."

Before the close of this meeting the committee had the satisfaction to learn that the Reverend Archdeacon Pott, on being applied to for the use of the Parish Church of St. Martin's in the Fields, had promised that Church for the benefit

of the Institution the first opportunity in the following year.

The committee, about this period was not a little surprized at finding it stated in an evening paper of high respectability, that "Among the numerous charitable Institutions in this metropolis, it is strange that there has not been one founded exclusively for the relief of children who are subject to many complaints, which require peculiar attention and experience." This extraordinary paragraph then went on to express the writer's "hope to hear that some benevolent individuals will reflect upon the utility of such an Institution being added to the several humane establishments which do so much honour to the country, by which means many children may be rescued from an untimely death, and rendered healthy and active members of the community." It was further announced that "such a useful Institution is likely to take place, and as it would be highly beneficial to the public at large we shall be glad to hail its progress and completion."

On reading such a paragraph the committee could have but two opinions upon the subject, either that the writer of it had awoke

out of a five years slumber, or that the members of the committee themselves were in a state of somnolency; for at this very period, it will be recollected that the objects and nature of the Institution, headed with its usual title and the high and brilliant patronage with which the Institution had already been honoured, were extensively and repeatedly published to the world—a patronage which was increasing every day, and particularly on the 4th of March, as appears by the following communication from a Right Reverend prelate of very high rank, talent, and consideration, the Lord Bishop of Chester.

“ SIR,

I am obliged to the Court of Directors of the General Dispensary for Children, for the honour they have done me by electing me one of the Vice Presidents of the same.

In return I shall be happy to promote the interests of the Institution by every means in my power.

I am, Sir,

Your faithful and obedient,

Humble Servant,

GEORGE H. CHESTER.”

Langham Place, March 4th. 1820.

To Mr. H. Richards, Secretary.

Emboldened by this unequivocal testimony of regard for the welfare of the Institution, the committee now ventured to solicit the favour of his Lordship's professional exertions in its behalf; and accordingly at its desire, the Founder waited upon the Bishop, when circumstances, detailed in the ensuing letter, prevented a personal interview, but did not interfere with the good intentions of that Right Reverend Divine, whose subsequent communication we insert being as honourable to his own polite benevolence, as it is flattering to this Infant Institution.

“ SIR,

I was engaged with a committee when you called in Langham Place, and was therefore obliged to request you to favour me with your communication by letter.

I will readily advocate the interests of your Institution on one of three first Sundays in May, if such be the wish of the Directors and Governors of it.

I am, Sir,

Your faithful humble Servant,

GEORGE H. CHESTER.”

To Dr. J. B. Davis.

Langham Place, March 17th. 1820.

The accounts and proceedings at the Festival having now been fully revised, it was ascertained that the sum total of subscriptions collected, and of donations bestowed, amounted to 321*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*; and also that the following gentlemen are the Stewards elect for the Anniversary Festival of 1821.

DR. ADDISON

JOHN ARCHBUTT, ESQ.

GEORGE BULLOCK, ESQ.

R. BERRY, ESQ.

GEORGE BUCK, ESQ.

DR. J. B. DAVIS

T. H. DAVIS, ESQ.

WM. WOODWARD, ESQ.

PETER DAVIES, ESQ.

JOHN EVANS, ESQ.

J. T. GELLIBRAND, ESQ.

THOMAS GLOVER, ESQ.

THOMAS HARRISON, ESQ.

WILLIAM INGLISS, ESQ.

JOHN G. JONES, ESQ.

ROBERT HEDGER, ESQ.

WM. WILLIAMS, ESQ. M.P.

The annual report concluded with the important facts that this universally charitable Institution has already been productive of great public utility by relieving parishes, and exciting a more general and earnest attention to the diseases of infancy and childhood. In a private sense, it has afforded comfort to numerous families when under affliction from the illness of their children, and has saved them an expense for

medicines and advice which they can ill afford to incur, even in the best of circumstances. Between June, 1816, when the Dispensary was opened, and March, 1820, no less than 8026 Children had received Medical and Surgical Assistance.

Of the total number of Patients admitted

There have been cured and relieved	-	7279
Have died	- - - - -	157
Have been vaccinated	- - -	310
On the books, and under cure	-	280
<hr/>		
Total	- -	8026

It is a most interesting view of this Charity to contemplate the vast amount of good which it has already done with means more circumscribed, notwithstanding its very high and generous patronage, than any other charitable Institution in the metropolis. But much as has been done by the strictest care, the most watchful economy, and the most constant exertions, the committee was still anxious to institute further efforts; particularly to make the Institution more generally known to the public at large through the medium of the pulpit, a mode which the committee

is proud to say, and grateful to acknowledge, it ever found opened to the charity from the benevolent dispositions of the Clergymen to whom applications were directed. Yet, as it may be asked why this has not been done to a still greater extent, a slight explanation may be necessary.

The personal services of the Clergy, it is pleasing to say, were with few exceptions at the disposal of the Institution; but the urgent calls of, and previous engagements to other charities proved no little impediment in the way of the respective Rectors lending their churches.

Still it is but justice to state that not only the metropolitan clergy, and churchwardens, but the parishioners themselves in almost every district of this vast capital, have generally known and felt that the *Universal Dispensary for Children* is to all intents and purposes a PAROCHIAL CHARITY, receiving the sick children of the poor, not only of real paupers, but of industrious poverty, under its healing wing; in all cases relieving each parish from a certain expence, and often, indeed very often, guarding parishes from future expences—from cripples and sickly parishioners, who would

become burthens to them, if the deterioration of their health were not either checked, or ultimately removed by the medical exertions of the Charity.

Besides, it cannot be doubted that timely relief to an infant, by saving it from a protracted illness has in many cases prevented the parents themselves from coming to the work-house, which but too often happens, when all their earnings have been spent, and their apparel and bedding pawned to pay the venal and avaricious Quack, who lives and fattens upon the misery and credulity of their poorer fellow creatures.

This is surely a strong and triumphant reason why *Every Parish* is called upon in honour, in gratitude, in prudence, and in economy to consider the *Universal Dispensary for Children* as a specific parochial institution, intimately connected with its other charities. When we see that between Midsummer day, 1816, and the latter end of March, 1820, that only 157 children under 12 years of age have died out of 8026, not in the proportion of two in a hundred, it is proved in

the most irrefragable manner that the Institution has already been highly successful in its diminution of infant suffering and mortality, and ought therefore to be allowed at least one annual claim upon every parish in the metropolis where its influence has been felt.

Irresistible however, as such claims have proved upon numerous occasions, other charities have unfortunately but too often superseded applications for assistance, leaving the committee nothing to mingle with the regret of disappointment, but gratitude for that kindness, which would have served if possible; for even the refusals themselves, as was evinced by the various answers received, were characterized by a politeness and condescension, alike creditable to the scholar, the gentleman, and the philanthropist.

To the Reverend Mr. Gurney, the Reverend Mr. Burgh, the Reverend Dr. Hollingsworth, the Reverend Mr. Matthias, the Reverend Mr. Dealtry, the Reverend Dr. Bloomfield, the Reverend Dr. Harrison, and the Reverend Dr. Rudge, the committee is much indebted for the promise of future kind intentions to the Charity.

Anxious to cherish the high patronage, and support which were again within its reach, the committee, at the meeting on the 27th of the month, proceeded with great satisfaction to record the usual recommendation of conferring the office of Vice President upon the Lord Bishop of Chester; and also upon the Honourable and Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Durham for his generous patronage and donation of Ten Guineas at the preceding anniversary.

It was at this meeting also proposed that Sir Matthew Tierney, Bart. M.D. should be recommended to the next general meeting as an Honorary Director—a measure, which was highly agreeable to, and readily accepted by the worthy Baronet himself, as is expressed in the following communication.

“ SIR,

I had the honour of receiving your letter of the 27th instant, communicating to me the resolution of a general court of the Directors and Governors of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, nominating me an Honorary Director of that Charity.

I beg you to offer my best thanks for the honour conferred on me, and to assure the Directors and Governors of my best wishes for the prosperity and success of that very useful Institution.

I am, Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,

M. J. TIERNEY."

To Dr. Davis.

Brighton, 31st March, 1820.

To the Reverend Doctor Hollingsworth, our thanks are particularly due, for although obliged by imperative reasons to decline acceding to the request of the committee for the use of the Church of St. Botolph, Aldgate, he was far from being unmindful of the interests of the Institution, in testimony of which we annex the communication beneath.

" Doctor Hollingsworth presents his compliments to Dr. Davis. He is desired by the Lord Bishop of Chester, to apprise him that a multiplicity of applications make it necessary for the Bishop to limit his offer of service to Sunday the 30th of April. From the Reverend Mr. Parker, Dr. H. learned that he had succeeded in procuring St. Andrew's, Holborn, for the Dispensary, and

he hopes that the alteration of the day will make no difference. Dr. H. thinks it right to mention that he offered St. Margaret Lothbury, to the Bishop of Chester, for the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, if so small a church and congregation could be of any service."

Walthamstow, April 1st. 1820.

This kind and liberal communication from the Reverend Doctor was regarded by the committee as a convincing testimony of his good wishes; but the Church of St. Margaret being too small for any useful purpose, it was determined to forward an application to the Reverend Dr. Heslop, for the New Church, St. Marylebone, in which, though unsuccessful, the committee has to acknowledge the kindness of the Reverend Doctor in reserve for the Charity on a future occasion.

Whilst the committee awaited an opportunity to avail itself of the considerate kindness of the Bishop of Chester, it had the honour of enrolling the name of another venerable and Right Reverend Prelate among the Life Governors, who had presented the Charity with a

donation of Ten Guineas, as detailed in the following communication.

April 6th, Blackheath.

“SIR,

I found your letter on my table, upon my arrival from Oxford at this place.

I fear that it will not be in my power to avail myself of the honour intended me by the Directors of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, in becoming one of the Vice Presidents of that Institution. Having no regular residence, and being seldom in London, I have thought myself obliged to decline several similar applications, whenever they have been made to me, by other charities, for some years past.

I have therefore only to request that you will accept for yours, the draft which accompanies this note, as a testimony of my high sense of its importance and of my wish that the benefits which it confers may be still further extended.

I remain, Sir,

Your faithful Servant,

E. OXFORD.”

To Dr. Davis.

Still acting upon the wish of attracting the attention, and more extended patronage of the Right Reverend Bench of Prelates, an application was next presented to the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Peterborough to preach in behalf of the Charity ; but in that, the committee had to support a temporary disappointment, although it adverts with pleasing anticipation to his Lordship's future good offices.

“ Palace, Peterborough, 17th April, 1820.

The Bishop of Peterborough presents his compliments to Dr. Davis, and is very sorry that he cannot, at present, preach for the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, as the duties of his diocese will prevent him from making any stay in town during the next Sessions of Parliament.”

Shortly after this the Bishop was proposed, and elected at the ensuing general meeting, a Vice President of the Charity.

The day appointed by the Bishop of Chester for the Charity Sermon was now approaching fast, namely the 30th of April, but the utmost exertions of the committee had still been un-

successful in procuring a church. As late as the 18th of April the committee had to experience a disappointment from circumstances which over-ruled even the kindness of the Reverend Dr. Wordsworth, to whom it had applied for St. Mary's, Lambeth.

“Rectory House, Lambeth,

April 18, 1820.

“SIR,

The very numerous demands made upon my parishioners for the support of schools and other charitable institutions, I regret exceedingly to say, render it impossible for me to comply at this time with the request in behalf of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, contained in your letter of the 22nd ult.

Having been absent from Lambeth for several weeks, I did not receive your letter till last Friday evening; and that you will be so obliging as to accept as my excuse for the delay which has arisen in the transmission of my answer.

I am, Sir,

Your humble and obedient, Servant,

CHARLES WORDSWORTH.”

To Dr. Davis.

It was at length reported at the monthly meeting of the 24th that the parish Church of St. Mary Woolnoth, Lombard Street, had been kindly offered for the Bishop of Chester on the 30th of April, by the Reverend Mr. Birch. On that day the Sermon was accordingly preached by the Right Reverend Prelate, who happily displayed in it the objects of the Charity with that eloquent and persuasive oratory, for which he is so eminently and so justly distinguished.

The committee about this period had the satisfaction to find that a tribute of respect, in a lasting memorial, was about to be paid to the late lamented Royal Patron, His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent,\* whose patronage and exertions

\* As the Royal Duke was so much identified with the Institution, we feel it incumbent to make this work, in its humble extent, a record of this tribute to his memory, a copy of which was transmitted officially to the Secretary of the Institution."

*Commemoration of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent.*

"At a most numerous public meeting of Noblemen and Gentlemen, connected with the various Charitable Institutions patronized by His late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, held at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, April 28, 1820—His Grace the Duke of Bedford in the Chair,"

in favour of the Charity had tended so much to its success and respectability, the example of

“It was moved by the Right Hon. the Earl of Darnley, seconded by W. Wilberforce, Esq. M.P. and resolved unanimously—

“That the benevolent patronage of His late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, which was extended over the principal Charities of the Metropolis, and its vicinity, was not less valuable for the honour of its Princely Sanction, than it was important for the influence of its illustrious example; and in publicly recording therefore, our deep and heartfelt sorrow at the decease of His Royal Highness, we have not only to mourn over an illustrious Member of the Royal Family, but we have also to deplore the loss of that active zeal, that powerful eloquence, and those unwearied exertions, which so peculiarly characterized the Duke of Kent; and which, in pleading for the distressed, relieving the diseased, reclaiming the vicious, and instructing the ignorant, embraced every description of human misery; and by the extension of Knowledge, and the diffusion of the Scriptures, promoted the improvement of his fellow creatures.”

“It was moved by the Right Hon. the Earl of Breadalbane, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Collyer, and resolved unanimously—

That to transmit to posterity the deep and universal feeling of respect entertained for the virtues and beneficence of the late Duke of Kent, a Monumental Statue of His Royal Highness be erected in an eligible part of the Metropolis, and that a Public Subscription be immediately opened for that purpose; and with the view

which was now about to be adopted in the western district of the metropolis, where its be-

that this Testimony of respect to his Memory should be as general as the sorrow for his loss, the subscription be limited to One Guinea, and that the smallest contributions be received."

"It was moved by the Right Hon. Lord Clifford, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Randolph, and resolved unanimously—

"That His Grace the Duke of Bedford, the Most Noble the Marquis of Huntly, Charles Forbes, Esq. M.P., Joseph Hume, Esq. M.P., George Watson Taylor, Esq. M.P., William Wilberforce, Esq. M.P., and Matthew Wood, Esq. Alderman, and M.P., be solicited to act as Trustees to the Fund, and with the Committee, be empowered to carry these Resolutions into effect."

"It was moved by Sir Thomas Hugh Clifford, Bart., seconded by Frederick Webb, Esq. and resolved unanimously—"

"That William Williams, Esq. M.P., and James Thomson, Esq. be requested to become Treasurer and Honorary Secretary, and that the Provisional Committee be solicited to continue their services, with power to extend their numbers."

"It was moved by Matthew Wood, Esq. M.P., seconded by Charles Forbes, Esq. M.P., and resolved unanimously—"

"That a Copy of the Resolutions of this Meeting be presented to Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, by the Committee."

nefits, as will appear by a subsequent statement, had been already sensibly felt.

“ It was moved by the Right Hon. the Earl of Donoughmore, seconded by William Williams, Esq. M.P., and resolved unanimously—”

“ That Copies of these Resolutions be sent to the Committee of every Institution, with which His late Royal Highness was in any way connected.”

(Signed) BEDFORD, Chairman.

JAMES THOMSON, Hon. Sec.

“ His Grace the Duke of Bedford having left the Chair; upon the motion of Joseph Hume, Esq. M.P., seconded by James Thomson, Esq., it was taken by the Right Hon. the Earl of Breadalbane, when it was moved by the Right Hon. the Earl of Darnley, seconded by Joseph Hume, Esq. M.P., and resolved unanimously—”

“ That the warmest acknowledgments of this Meeting be presented to the Most Noble the Duke of Bedford, not less for the honour of his Grace’s personal exertion, and powerful support, in presiding upon this interesting occasion, than for that zeal, perseverance, and ability, with which he has ever promoted the cause of Charity by his munificence, and sustained it by his example.

(Signed) BREADALBANE, Chairman.

JAMES THOMSON, Hon. Sec.”

The Subscriptions already received, with the names of all future Subscribers, will be duly announced.

The general meeting which took place on the 3rd of May, fully confirmed all the committee

*Commemoration of His late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent.*

Committee Room, Freemasons' Hall,

May 1, 1820.

“ SIR,

In obedience to the instructions of the Public Meeting of Noblemen and Gentlemen, connected with the numerous benevolent Institutions patronized by His late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, assembled at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, April the 28th, I have the honour of enclosing a Copy of the various Resolutions then passed, and beg to request you will immediately lay it before the Committee and Subscribers of the *Universal Dispensary for the Diseases of Children*.

The vast obligations of the Friends of your valuable Charity to the patronage and exertions of His late Royal Highness, render it unnecessary for me to urge the very powerful claims to do honour to his Memory, which now press upon them; and the noble Chairman and Committee for carrying into effect the enclosed Resolutions, cannot doubt, but that every effort will be made by the Managers and Subscribers of your Institution, to evince that gratitude, to which His late Royal Highness's exertions in its behalf form so irresistible an appeal.

The Subscription having been limited to only One Guinea from each Contributor, it is presumed that the number of Subscribers will fully equal, if not exceed the warmest anticipations of our

proceedings, previously noticed, and passed the following resolutions in furtherance of the intentions of the committee in regard to an humble application to His Majesty, already in a state to be sent forward.

At a general meeting of the Directors and Governors of this Charity, Sir Thomas Bell, Vice President, Treasurer in the chair,

It was unanimously resolved, -

“That the benevolent objects and designs of this Institution be made known to Sir Benjamin Bloomfield, Bart. and that he be respectfully in-

Committee, who rely with every confidence upon the individual and collective efforts of all who estimate the memory of those virtues, which so peculiarly distinguished your late Royal Patron.

You will do me the favour to communicate the result of your Society's Subscriptions when completed, awaiting which,

I have the honour to remain,

Sir,

Your very obedient, humble Servant,

JAMES THOMSON,

Honorary Secretary.”

Henry Richards, Esq. Secretary.

vited to afford his protection and countenance to this Charity by conferring upon the Directors and Governors the honour of consenting to become one of the Vice Presidents.”

“That a copy of the Book, descriptive of the designs of the Charity be forwarded to Sir Benjamin, and that he be solicited to grant leave for a deputation to wait upon him to ascertain his pleasure on the subject of this application.”

“That the memorial humbly addressed by the Directors and Governors of this Institution to His Most Gracious Majesty King George the Fourth be inclosed to Sir Benjamin ; that his assistance and advice be respectfully solicited therein, in order that, should it meet with his approbation, the prayer of their memorial so intimately connected with the health, happiness, and welfare of His Majesty’s poorer subjects, may by Sir Benjamin’s condescension, be submitted to His Majesty’s most gracious consideration.”

Anxious to strengthen their efforts with Sir Benjamin Bloomfield, the General Court also authorized an application to Sir Matthew Tierney, Bart. M.D. so deservedly high in Royal con-

confidence, and who had already manifested great interest in the welfare of the Institution, for his co-operation.

On this subject it was most gratifying at this date to find their hopes and wishes so warmly met by Sir Matthew, as will appear from the following communication.

“ SIR,

I waited to answer your letter of the 29th ult. until I made the necessary enquiries at Carlton Palace. Sir Benjamin Bloomfield received the memorial, and proposes to take the King's pleasure upon it, on the first favourable opportunity. The result will be communicated in proper time. A variety of circumstances connected with a press of public business, since His Majesty's late illness, has prevented the memorial being laid before His Majesty earlier; but rest assured, it shall have all the support I can give it. At the same time I think it right to add that Sir Benjamin Bloomfield is the only channel through which the business can be brought before the King.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

M. J. TIERNEY.”

46, Dover Street, 3d May, 1820.

Dr. J. B. Davis.

At the general meeting, a definition of the duties of the Secretary, as proposed by the sub-committee appointed to take this subject into consideration, and as referred by the monthly committee of April to the ensuing committee, or general meeting, was unanimously agreed to\*. It specifies, in a clear manner, all the various duties attached to the Secretary's office, now indeed become multifarious, from the great extension of the Charity, as will appear upon a reference to the Rules. It is not too much to say that the welfare and existence of every institution, *medical or not*, supported by voluntary contributions only, depend upon the combined efforts of all the officers and the governors at large.

If the Secretary be not the main spring, he is in fact a regulator of the whole machine, by bringing, as it were, into one focus, the exertions of others, and by preventing them from diverging afterwards, lest their influence cease, and the object fail. To him therefore we look up with confidence, assured that without his continued assistance all the works

\* See Definition of duty in Rules.

must get out of order, and their powers be irregularly or improperly applied.

The extraordinary increase of patronage since the general Court in November required a specific acknowledgment of gratitude and thanks to the various new Benefactors and Patrons of the Charity. That court therefore proceeded to elect the following venerable Prelates, the Honourable and Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Gloucester, the Right Reverend the Lords Bishops of Peterborough, Cloyne, and Ely, and also Thomas Wilson, Esq. M.P. Vice Presidents of the Institution.

On the 10th of May the following letter was received from the Lord Bishop of Ely.

Ely House, May 10th. 1820.

“ SIR,

I very willingly consent to be named a Vice President of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*; and if the Collector will call upon me any morning before eleven o'clock, I will pay into his hands my benefaction of Ten Guineas.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

S. E. ELY.”

H. Richards, Esq.

From the Lord Bishop of Gloucester a letter was addressed to the Founder on the 12th of the month to the following effect.

“ SIR,

I beg to return, through you, my best thanks to the Directors and Governors of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, for the honour conferred upon me; but must add my regret that it will be wholly out of my power to perform any of the duties or good offices of a Vice President beyond that of preaching hereafter for the Institution.

I remain, Sir,

Your very faithful and humble Servant,

H. GLOUCESTER.”

Dr. J. B. Davis.

Although the Directors and Governors of the *Universal Dispensary for Children* had been highly gratified to find their plan adopted in the western district of the metropolis, into which indeed, by the original constitution of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, their own exertions had previously extended, yet they could not help feeling some anxiety, lest the adopted name, the “ *Royal Infirmary for the Diseases*

of *Children*," established for the benefit of the poor in "Westminster," and the parish of "St. Marylebone," should clash in some degree with the interest and name of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, whose avowed object, from the very first, had been to provide medical aid instantly, without recommendation, on the first application, to the infant poor from ALL DISTRICTS of the metropolis and its vicinity—to establish *Stations* in various parts, for the purpose of bringing home relief, as it were, to the very doors of the poor, as soon as their means would admit of it—and to follow up this by the establishment of an *Infirmery* or of *Infirmaries*, in some retired and healthy situation, a few miles from town, where the mothers might be enabled to take care of their infants in such complaints as absolutely required a change of air; yet, avoiding any thing like a *General Infirmery*, as in itself a means rather of *spreading*, than of *repressing* disease, in consequence of a great many of the acute and *most frequent diseases* of children, being for the most part *highly contagious*.

Upon this principle, they judged it prudent, at once to make a candid appeal to the Right Reve-

rend Prelate, the Lord Bishop of Chester, who had presided at the first meeting of that Institution, and who is a Vice President of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*. Accordingly on the 25th of May, a letter was addressed to his Lordship to the following purport.

May 22nd, 1820.

103, Great Surry Street.

“ MY LORD,

Perceiving by the Morning Post of the other day, that your Lordship presided on the occasion of the founding the Western Infirmary for the Diseases of Children, I take the liberty of asking your Lordship whether the title of “Royal Infirmary for the Diseases of Children,” does not give that excellent Institution too general a denomination, considering it is intended for a local Infirmary, and that the “*Universal Dispensary for Children*,” which is really *general* both in *name* and in *operation*, and from which the Western Infirmary is copied, may not, in some degree, be affected thereby?

I am aware that another sentence follows the beginning of such title, “for Westminster and

St. Marylebone." Still, in the judgment, of the Directors and Governors, and in my own humble opinion also, it would be more consistent, adverting to the originality as well as the universality of operation of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, that the designation of "*Western*," should be preserved. This would also accord with the plan and address, as published, by the promoters of that Charity.

I am rejoiced to hear of the establishment in question, and heartily wish it success. At the same time, I trust, the above alteration in the title will be made.

I request the favour of your lordship, to excuse this intrusion; but, as I am well assured, that your lordship must have influence to propose such an alteration, and would, in your benevolence and liberality, assist the views of both these useful Institutions, so I trust this representation will meet with the same indulgent attention, which every subject of interest and importance to the community invariably does from your Lordship.

I am, with great respect, my Lord,

Your Lordship's,  
Faithful, and obedient Servant,  
J. B. DAVIS."

This application met instantly with a decided and liberal approval, the result of which was communicated most politely to the Governors, by the Right Reverend Prelate himself, a few days afterwards.

“Langham Place, May 29, 1820.

“DEAR SIR,

I delayed answering your letter, till I had submitted its contents to a meeting, holden this day at the Thatched House Tavern.

The General Board, with pleasure, altered the designation of their Institution, to that of the “Royal Western Infirmary, &c.”

Believe me, dear Sir,

Faithfully your's,

G. H. CHESTER.”

At an ensuing meeting of the committee, it was unanimously resolved to recommend the General Court to appoint Vice Patrons, as a means of strengthening the interests of the Charity.

An accurate judgment of the sphere of operation and now rapidly extending utility of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, may be drawn from the fact, that up to the 26th of June, 1820, no less than 9,233 patients had been admitted; of whom 8,404 had been cured and relieved, and

only 192 had died ; but the number of patients still on the books, which amounted to 306, induced the committee to feel, that every exertion was imperatively necessary for the improvement of the funds, and for an increase of patronage, in order to fulfil the ulterior objects of the Charity, by the establishment of STATIONS.

In this anxiety, however, for increase of patronage, the committee neglected not to pay due respect to departed worth ; and accordingly directed the Secretary to transmit the following circular letter to the Directors and Governors of the Institution, in reply to a communication from the Secretary of the “ Kent Commemoration Committee.”

Universal Dispensary for Children.

“ Sir,

I take the liberty, by direction of the Committee of this Institution, of calling your attention to the Public Subscription now on foot, for the erection of a monument, to the memory of His late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, who was one of the Patrons of this Charity, of which you are a Governor.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

HENRY RICHARDS, Secretary.”

June 6th, 1820.

In the course of the summer, numerous letters of solicitation were transmitted to different members of both Houses of Parliament, several of whom, at once, acceded very handsomely to the requests of the Directors and Governors. Among these we may enumerate the Most Noble the Marquis of Camden, in the acquisition of whose support, the Institution has just cause to exult; for, in naming the Marquis of Camden, it is impossible to forget the public virtues of that illustrious and patriotic nobleman, which so justly endear him to a grateful nation—his liberal display of generous disinterestedness, in the sacrifice of his income, in the moment of national trouble, and of financial embarrassment. Indeed, when they considered the benevolence of his character, and the influence of his connections; the Directors and Governors could but hail his name, as one well calculated to advance the objects of their Charitable Institution, and now look forward with the most respectful confidence, to his benignant exertions and generous patronage, in extending the knowledge, and in furthering the objects of the Charity.

It is our pleasing task, next to express our thanks to those great and distinguished noblemen, their

Graces the Dukes of Rutland, Grafton, Beaufort, Marlborough, and Devonshire, for having generously consented to become Vice Patrons of the Charity, with a degree of promptitude and pleasure, which indicated that they felt at once the importance of the Institution, and that its objects merited the extended support of the noblest families of the kingdom, as well as of all other classes of the community

Impressed with a sense of the condescension and kindness of His Grace the Duke of Rutland, in adopting the patronage of the Charity, a letter on the 26th of June, was transmitted to His Grace, with a resolution of thanks for his patronage, and of solicitation to His Grace to submit a memorial to His Majesty, with a view to procure our Gracious Sovereign's favour and approbation of our efforts, in the following terms.

Universal Dispensary for Children.

“That the grateful acknowledgments of the Directors and Governors be presented to His Grace the Duke of Rutland, for his condescension in adopting the patronage of this Institution, as signified to the Directors and Governors by the Senior Physician, deputed to wait upon his Grace.

“ That it be represented to His Grace, that in the opinion of the Directors and Governors, the benefits of their invaluable Institution would be greatly diffused, and their endeavours successfully advanced, could they but succeed in procuring the Sovereign’s sanction to the Charity, and thus more effectually draw the attention of the public to its importance and utility.”

“ That a copy of the Memorial to His Most Excellent Majesty, setting forth the nature, objects, and results of the Institution, be enclosed to His Grace the Duke of Rutland for his perusal ; and, should His Grace approve of the same, that he be humbly solicited to present it to His Majesty at a Levee, or to transmit it to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, in order that it may be submitted to His Majesty’s most gracious consideration, and His Majesty’s pleasure ascertained thereon.”\*

That thus would their efforts be crowned with complete success—thus would an Institution of the greatest consequence to the labouring and industrious poor of this commercial metropolis—and to the nation also, as respects the vigour of the population, be perpetuated.”

\* See copy of Memorial, Page 311.

To the Earl of Liverpool, Viscount Castlereagh, the Duke of St. Alban's, and to the Duke of Richmond, the committee next addressed itself for patronage and support. The former nobleman—the first senator of the land, has, with a benevolence peculiar to his public and private life, condescended to adopt the patronage of the Institution, by becoming a Governor for Life: and His Grace the Duke of Richmond has cheerfully consented to enrol his name upon the list of Vice Patrons.

The patronage of His Grace the Duke of Grafton was in the opinion of the Directors and Governors an object of the greatest importance to the Charity. Nor was the negociation for this, which was entrusted to the Founder, unsuccessful.

Independent of a very marked personal attention from the Duke, the Founder perceived His Grace to listen with a peculiar affability and attention to a detail of the objects and design of the Institution, pointedly and at once stating his conviction of its great merits, and his high opinion of its objects and mode of operation. In addition to all this noble patronage, the committee had now to boast of the approval and active pa-

tronage, of some of the most eminent medical and surgical characters in the metropolis, a circumstance which tended extremely to elevate its character and consequence.

In fact, the Institution may now be said to have arrived at the point of fulfilment of its original views and purposes, not only in respect of the extensiveness of its operation over every district of the metropolis, and in the recent establishment of *Stations*, or Branches of the PARENT INSTITUTION, in Southwark and Lambeth, to be extended to other parts of the metropolis as rapidly as possible, but from the general attention it has excited to the diseases of children, as the Institution in Westminster alone unanswerably proves.

A new era in the Institution has in short opened upon us—an era which is most appropriately chosen for the preparation of the present work, by the express desire of the committee, in order to serve as a memorial of its objects so far completed, and of its now established fame and utility.

We have next to record the most active exer-

tions on the part of the committee, during the month of July. At this period, means were again attempted, to bring the *Universal Dispensary for Children* under view of the Royal Eye.

Applications also for patronage were, about the same time, made to the Marquis of Worcester, to Lord Robert Manners, the Earl of Bridgewater, the Marquis of Winchester, the Bishops of Salisbury, Norwich, Lincoln, and Bristol, the Right Honourable Lord Eldon, and the Marquis of Buckingham.

Among the numerous and highly honourable body of clergy, now patronizing the establishment, it may be said that few, if any, had manifested more zeal for its welfare, than the Rev. Dr. Wordsworth; it was, therefore, with considerable regret, that the committee received the following communication from that gentleman, on the 5th of July, who had only awaited the re-establishment of his health to advocate the interests of the Charity at St. Andrew's Church, Holborn.

Hampstead Heath, July 28, 1820.

“ MY DEAR SIR,

Though my health is considerably improved, I am not yet strong enough to occupy my own pulpit, and fear it may yet be some time before that event can take place. To venture to preach at St. Andrew's, Holborn, would be a much greater effort, and must not be thought of at present.”

“ But besides the above reason, my new engagements, respecting which, I thank you for your obliging congratulations, will occupy me considerably, and will, probably, before long, take me down to Cambridge.

I remain, my dear Sir,

Your's, very faithfully,

CHARLES WORDSWORTH.”

Dr. J. B. Davis.

In another respect, the committee was highly gratified to find, how far the fame and utility of the Institution had extended. A professional gentleman visited the Institution, on the 7th of July, from Manchester, for the purpose of procuring information, as to the mode of establishing

a similar Charity in that opulent and extensive town.

In London also Dr. Gooch, expressed a desire to see the practice and cases at the Institution.

A few days afterwards the committee had the satisfaction of receiving fresh assurances of countenance and support from that highly distinguished and benevolent nobleman His Grace the Duke of Grafton ; of such a nature indeed, as induced the committee to hope that on a proper representation His Grace might be disposed to forward a copy of the memorial to His Majesty ; and on this subject great anxiety existed, because His Majesty's patronage of the New Institution in Westminster had already been announced.

In this place we have to insert the following resolutions, which were unanimously passed by the committee, and ordered to be advertised in the daily papers, at the critical period of the establishment of the " Westminster Infirmary," as descriptive of the originality, nature, and results of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*.

Universal Dispensary for Children,  
June 5, 1820.

“That the importance and utility of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, founded in 1816, by Dr. J. B. Davis, for the relief of the Sick Infant Poor throughout the metropolis, are strikingly exemplified, not only in the assistance afforded to upwards of 9000 children, who have been admitted—in the countenance and support it has received from three Royal Dukes its Patrons—from the Lord Mayors, for the time being, as Presidents—from Noblemen—Bishops—Members of Parliament, and public men, forming a distinguished list of Vice Presidents, among whom are Dr. Baillie, Dr. Latham, President of the Royal College of Physicians, Sir James McGregor, and Dr. Robert Bree—but in the establishment of a local Institution, precisely of the same description as the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, for the treatment of the Diseases of Children in “Westminster and St. Marylebone” under the title of the “Royal Western Infirmary for Children.”

“That, in order that the diseases of the children of the poor might be treated with a promptitude

equal to the rapidity with which they proceed, so as to obviate the fatal consequences arising from the delay in administering assistance, it was a peculiar feature in founding the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, that relief should be afforded, in every case of emergency, without a letter of recommendation, and this having been uniformly acted upon, the poor have experienced the full benefit of this invaluable regulation, the doors of the Dispensary having been thrown open to them at *every hour*, and *even by night*, on *an application of danger*."

"That the committee learn with great satisfaction that on founding the Royal Western Infirmary, *this feature of this Universal Dispensary for Children* has been adopted—that in the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, (which admits the Sick Infant Poor from every part of the metropolis and its vicinity, from birth to the 12th year of age) every disease, medical and surgical, which attacks children, is treated, and even the *prevention* of disease is accomplished by the distribution of Rules and Directions, prepared by the Senior Physician, among the parents of the patients, as a guide to the preservation of their

children's health—an important object of this Institution *not* hitherto imitated.”

“That previous to the founding of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, the British metropolis was without a public establishment for the Sick Children of the Poor.”

“That the *Universal Dispensary for Children* has given birth to a school of medicine, in which the theory of disease is elucidated and confirmed by practice in that very imperfect department of science relating to children's diseases; and has thus, and by its medical reports, in a more particular manner, excited the attention of professional men to this subject.”

The next proceeding of the committee of importance was a resolution to open *Stations* in fulfilment of the *original plan* of the Institution. An opportunity now offered for the establishment of a *Station* in *St. Thomas's Street, Southwark*, in consequence of an offer from Mr. Benj. G. Davis, who gratuitously proposed to take upon himself the duties of Surgeon, and to allow his house to be used for the purposes of a *Station*.

To this liberal offer the committee gratefully acceded; nominated Mr. B. G. Davis the Surgeon and Apothecary; and appointed a sub-committee consisting of Thomas Marshall, Esq. James Deans, Esq., B. G. Davis, Esq. and Dr. Davis to arrange a plan for carrying this object into effect. It is gratifying to add that the *Southwark Station*, which has been opened under the super-intendence of the physicians of the parent Institution, is now in full operation, and promises to be of the utmost utility to the Sick Infant Population of Southwark, and its vicinity. Such, indeed, is the prospect of benefit to be derived from the opening of *Stations* in different districts, that the committee has also concluded arrangements for establishing a *Station* in *Lambeth* under the superintendence of the senior Physician, with the intention of following up this plan in all quarters of the metropolis.

A difficulty now arose in regard to the Charity Sermon, at St. Andrew's Holborn, in consequence of an application from Her Grace the Duchess of Buccleugh to the Reverend Mr. Beresford for St. Andrew's Church, already promised to the Universal Dispensary, for the Loan Society.

Under these circumstances it was determined that a letter should be written to the Reverend Mr. Beresford, offering to yield the prior claim of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, provided the committee could have an assurance of having a Sermon preached at St. Andrew's Church in the course of the autumn or winter. To this the following answer was soon after sent.

Hoby, July 19th 1820.

“ SIR,

In consequence of my absence from Aylestone, your letter did not reach me in time to admit of my sending an answer by the return of post.

If you should have relinquished all idea of having the Sermon in behalf of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, in St. Andrew's Church, this summer, either in consequence of Dr. Wordsworth's indisposition, or in favour of the Loan Society, I can only say that I shall be ready to grant you a farther offer of my pulpit, as soon as I can consistently with existing applications from other societies : but I have every reason to think that it would be very unacceptable to the pa-

rishioners at large, to allow any Sermon for other societies to interfere, as would be the case at the latter end of the year, with our parochial charities.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

G. BERESFORD."

To Dr. Davis.

The committee, feeling that the countenance and approval of His Grace the Duke of Grafton, had been gained, was anxious to extend its influence in that noble family. An application was therefore now made to his eldest son, the Earl of Euston, and also to Lord Charles Fitzroy, for their patronage and support.

Influenced by the letter from the Rev. Mr. Beresford, the committee resolved to proceed with the Sermon at St. Andrew's: and, accordingly, on Sunday, the 30th of July, a most excellent discourse was delivered at St. Andrew's, Holborn, by the Rev. William Parker, M.A., Rector of St. Ethelburga, Bishopsgate Street, to a very numerous and highly respectable congregation.

An application was next made to the Rev. Thomas Clare, for the use of St. Bride's Church, which was most liberally and cheerfully complied with ; and also to the Rev. Edward Smyth, Vicar of Camberwell, for his pulpit ; another to the Very Rev. Gerard Andrewes, Dean of Canterbury, for St. James's Church, a fourth to the Rev. Daniel Wilson, for St. John's Chapel, Bedford Row ; then to the Rev. Trefusis Lovell, for the pulpit of St. Lukes, to which he has acceded ; further to the Rev. Mr. Dealtry, for Clapham Church, to which he has also consented ; to the Rev. Dr. Blomfield for St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, which he instantly granted ; the Rev. Mr. Hatch for All-hallows, Friday Street ; the Rev. Mr. Buckland, for Sir George's, Southwark ; and the Rev. Mr. Mann, for St. Saviour's, Southwark.

But these exertions, among the clergy, did not prevent the committee from endeavouring still to extend the patronage of the Charity among the higher orders of society ; accordingly, early in August, applications for patronage and support were made to the Marquis of Buckingham, the Bishop of Litchfield and Coventry, the Earl of Powis, and the Duchess of Buccleugh.

We have little more now to record, except the exertions that were still making by the committee, to procure the countenance and support of the first characters in the empire; and the transmission of a letter to the Duke of Grafton, accompanied by a copy of the Memorial to the King, soliciting His Grace's assistance and friendly exertions in its favour.

On the 31st of July, His Grace the Duke of Grafton was pleased to transmit the following note to Dr. Davis, in reply to the above application of the 25th of June.

“The Duke of Grafton presents his compliments to Dr. Davis, and having received a copy from him of the Resolutions entered into by the Directors, &c. of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, accompanied by a memorial, or petition, to His Majesty, which the Duke of Grafton is desired to present, through the Secretary of State. The Duke of Grafton must first beg to see Dr. Davis again upon the subject, as he cannot present a Petition to His Majesty, on such a matter and occasion, without a little more acquaintance than he has at present, with any of the circumstances of the Institution, beyond

its general outline. But if Dr. Davis will do him the favour to call in Clarges Street, on Friday morning, at half past Ten, (4th inst.) the Duke of Grafton will have great satisfaction in communicating with him, &c.”

Clarges Street, July 31.

The Doctor, pursuant to the appointment, had a long and very satisfactory interview with His Grace, who entered into the spirit and design of the Institution, with great interest and attention. After His Grace had made the minutest enquiries into all particulars, he finally declared, that he thought the Institution an invaluable blessing to the sick infant poor, and would forward the views of the Directors and Governors with the greatest pleasure. He particularly approved of its original feature of affording relief without waiting for previous recommendation.

His Grace, upon the whole, was so much impressed with the merits of the Institution, that he undertook either to carry the Memorial to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, or to enclose it to him with an explanatory letter, promising to acquaint the committee, through

Dr. Davis, with the result, the moment he should hear from Lord Sidmouth.

On the 17th of August, the committee had the satisfaction to receive a communication from that amiable and noble lady, Her Grace the Duchess of Buccleugh, as follows, expressing her approval of the Institution, which she thought entitled to support—a communication in answer to an application from the committee for Her Grace's patronage.

Richmond, August 10.

“The Duchess of Buccleugh has, in consequence of Dr. Davis's letter sent her Subscription to the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, which appears to her very deserving of encouragement.”

Flattered with Her Grace's prompt and obliging notice of the Institution, the committee has recommended to the next general meeting, to elect Her Grace a Patroness of the Charity.

We cannot close these proceedings of the Charity more satisfactorily, than by detailing the results to the present time.

*Number of Patients admitted from the opening of the Dispensary,  
June 24, 1816, to October 1, 1820—10,263.*

Whereof have been cured and relieved	-	-	-	9,446
Have died	-	-	-	222
Have been vaccinated	-	-	-	358
Are upon the books and under cure	-	-	-	237
				<hr/>
				10,263
				<hr/>

*In the Southwark Station, from August 25th, 1820,  
to October 1—376.*

Whereof have been cured and relieved	-	-	-	67
Have died	-	-	-	11
Have been vaccinated	-	-	-	18
Are upon the books and under cure	-	-	-	280
				<hr/>
				376
				<hr/>

Total Number of Patients admitted	-	-	-	10,639
Total cured and relieved	-	-	-	9,513
Total vaccinated	-	-	-	376
Total upon the books and under cure	-	-	-	517

Thus we presume to hope, that results, experience, and daily observation, amply confirm the utility of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*. Nothing now is wanting but a *permanent fund* to ensure its future success, and to perpetuate it.

SUMMARY  
AND  
*REFLECTIONS.*

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We trust that it is not exceeding the truth to observe, that the BRITISH NATION has always been allowed to possess more active benevolence, and more true Christian-like charity, than ever has been displayed by any other nation in the universe. If a doubt were to be started upon this head, we should not hesitate to adduce the UNIVERSAL DISPENSARY FOR CHILDREN, as, in itself, a brilliant proof of the truth of this remark. But proof of this kind is not required ; for, at this moment, the Four Quarters of the Globe attest the zeal and liberality of Britain, employing her best efforts in promoting all the interests, both in this world, and in the world to come, of our fellow creatures, presenting a scene of moral grandeur, which, not all the pages of classic, or more modern history can produce, and which the most indifferent person cannot contemplate without feelings of rapture, and of high exultation.

Even at the moment when our utmost energies were called forth in self defence, against a ferocious enemy, still was there placed before us, as a relief from the horrors of war, the delightful prospect of numberless Institutions springing up, not only in the metropolis, but in all parts of the empire ; which, by the unity of their designs, the benevolence of their purposes, and the salutary tendency of their objects and results, were all calculated to foster and to fan the heavenly spark of brotherly love, and to shew, that all distinctions and all differences are lost sight of, whenever Charity is the object—a most glorious and splendid feature of the British character.

But to the **UNIVERSAL DISPENSARY FOR CHILDREN** does this remark most strikingly apply. It is encouraging and satisfactory to notice, that whilst the Institution is still guarded by the benevolence which has given birth, energy, and activity to its plans, it has benefited all classes of society, not only by its own operation, but by its expanding utility, in giving direct example and origin to establishments of a similar description, which again produce their contingent good in other quarters, not of the metropolis alone, but of other cities of the empire.

After an experience of upwards of four years, its Founders and Supporters naturally feel anxious to present a fair and full estimate of the result of their labours to the public at large, having recorded all the various and remarkable incidents, which have stamped a peculiar interest on the progress of this Institution, now happily favoured with that degree of encouragement and support by the public, which its benevolent objects and extensive practical utility, so pre-eminently claim.

Sensible as they are of the great and imposing advantage which this Institution has acquired, since its foundation, from the very high auspices under which it emanated, it is now a most pleasing duty to congratulate its friends, on that coincidence of rank, talent, and humanity, which gave it birth, and which have subsequently ensured its stability, and promoted its success. It must, indeed, be a most grateful recollection to every friend of the Charity, that Princes of the Blood, the First Magistrate of the City of London, and the Sheriffs, first associated with a numerous list of distinguished public men, to take steps for the diminution of that mass of infant suffering which existed at that period, to a very great degree al-

most unattended to, and unavoidably so, by the ever open hand of medical charity.

Yet, agreeable as this recollection is, it is embittered by the melancholy loss of their first illustrious Patron, to whose memory it becomes an imperative duty, to mark a due sense of the obligations which he conferred upon this Infant Charity. Whilst memory exists, never can be forgotten the obligations due by the Institution, for the patronage and exertions of His late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent; who, from its origin, up to the day of his death, had proved himself its steady friend and supporter.

With that name it is a pride to unite those of their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Sussex, and of Prince Leopold of Saxe Cobourg; to whom we have now the satisfaction of also adding the names of their Graces the Dukes of Marlborough, Beaufort, Devonshire, Richmond, Rutland, and Grafton; the Marquis of Camden, the Earl of Stamford and Warrington, and his brother the Hon. and Rev. A. Grey; the Bishop of London, and all the other names which do such honour to the list of Vice Presidents.

Of female worth and benevolence, we have many high names also to record, in Her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta, and the widowed Duchess of Kent ; to whom we are proud to add those of their Graces the Duchesses of Beaufort and Buccleugh, and the amiable Countess Dowager of Stamford and Warrington.

Nor must the powerful assistance pass unnoticed, which the Institution has derived from the exertions and friendly patronage of the great body of established clergy, of every rank in the hierarchy. From its very first claims on Public Charity, an extreme readiness to attend its calls was exemplified by the Parochial Clergy of the metropolis, since which, the Right Reverend Bench of Bishops have most generously stepped forward in its behalf. Early in 1820, the Lord Bishop of London, with that amiable and prompt benevolence so well known as scarcely to need a reference, set a noble example by adopting the interests of the Charity, in consenting to become a Vice President, in which he was preceded only by the Bishop of Chichester, and speedily followed by the Bishops of Winchester, Chester, Durham, Gloucester, Ely, Peterborough, and

Cloyne, from whose united and imposing patronage, an important consideration has been conferred upon the Institution, auguring the happiest results.

This is not only unanswerable evidence, so much required in an age of infidelity, of the practical exercise of one of the first of Christian virtues, by the dignified hierarchy of our established church; but is also an impressive point of honest pride to the friends and supporters of the Institution, that it can thus boast, at least, of a larger share of clerical patronage, than any other charitable establishment in the metropolis. Whilst the venerable Bench of Bishops thus carry into practice, the duties and doctrines which they have been inculcating through a long life, we can with pleasure contemplate the reflected image of their own early exertions in the cause of charity and benevolence, in the conduct of the Rectors and general Clergy of the metropolis, who have advocated from the pulpit, the cause of the Institution. It is, indeed, a most important fact, to state, that in the course of one year only, the Churches of St. Magnus, London Bridge; Christ Church, Surry; St. Mary, Woolnoth; Allhallows,

Barking; St. Andrew's, Holborn; St. Giles, Cripplegate; and St. Bride's, Fleet Street; have all been opened in aid of its funds.

Of the London clergy, who, since the commencement have generously preached, and considerately permitted the use of their pulpits, we have to enumerate the names of the Rev. Isaac Saunders, A.M., Rector of St. Ann's, Blackfriars, for the First Anniversary, in August 1817; the Rev. Henry White, A.M., Allhallows, Barking, in March, 1818, for the Second Anniversary; the Rev. Isaac Jackman, A.M., and the Rev. John Davies, A.M., at St. Olave's, Tooley Street, by permission of the Rev. William Green, A.M., Rector, in April 1818; the Rev. F. W. Robe, A.M., at St. Michael's, Queenhithe, by permission of the Rev. Dr. Coombe, Rector, in June, 1818; the Rev. John Rose, D.D., at St. James's, Garlick Hithe, by permission of the Rev. Robert Stevens, A.M., Rector, in July of the same year; again, by the Rev. F. W. Robe, A.M., at St. Luke's, Old Street, by permission of the Rev. Trefusis Lovell, A.M., Rector, in September, 1818; the Rev. William James Bellamy, A.M., at Allhallows, Bread Street, by permission of the Rev.

Thomas Cherry, B.D., in December of the same year. In February, 1819, the Anniversary Sermon, by the Rev. S. Crowther, A.M., at St. Martin's, Outwich, Bishopsgate, by permission of the Rev. Dr. Rose, Rector; and the Rev. William Parker, A.M., at St. Antholin's, Watling Street, by permission of the Rev. Richard Johnson, B.A., Rector, in June, 1819; the Rev. F. D. Lempriere, B.A., at St. Bartholomew the Great, West Smithfield, by permission of the Rev. Mr. Roberts, Rector, in December, 1819; and in 1820, the Fourth Anniversary Sermon, by the Rev. I. Jackman, A.M., at Christ Church, Surry, by permission of the Rev. Mr. Mapleton, Rector; the Rev. Mr. Rice, at St. Magnus, London Bridge, by permission of the Rev. Mr. Lee, Rector, in March, 1820. In this year the Rev. Mr. Beresford deserves the particular thanks of every friend to the Institution. Although but recently appointed to St. Andrew's, Holborn, yet so much was he, at once, impressed with the importance of the Charity, that he has not only cheerfully given up his pulpit, at the request of the committee, but under many unforeseen difficulties and disappointments, arising from the committee being unable, at the moment, to procure the services of an eminent di-

vine, he not only considerably kept it open for the Rev. Dr. Wordsworth, but has even most generously interceded with the Bishop of Gloucester, for the patronage of that venerable prelate. Nor is this all, he has given up his pulpit eventually, to the Rev. Mr. Parker, who preached for the Charity at St. Andrew's, Holborn, in July, as has been before recorded.

Of the tribute of respect already paid to the amiable, and, we may justly add, enlightened Bishop of Chester, it must not be forgotten, that, although a zealous supporter of, and Chairman at the meeting for establishing the *Royal Western Infirmary*; yet, when it was represented to him, that the first designation given to that Charity might interfere with the title of the UNIVERSAL DISPENSARY FOR CHILDREN, he hesitated not a moment to submit an application on that subject to a general meeting, and to effect that alteration in its title, which was necessary to shew the local nature of that Institution, and to prevent the "UNIVERSAL DISPENSARY FOR CHILDREN" from suffering in any degree from the adoption of a general title, to which *it alone* is entitled.

To the medical world much praise is also due ; and in proof of the estimation in which the Institution is held by some of the most enlightened members of that profession, it seems only necessary to state the acquisition of the names of Dr. Latham, the President of the Royal College of Physicians, of Dr. Baillie, Sir Henry Halford, Bart., Sir Gilbert Blane, Bart., Sir Francis Milman, Bart., Dr. William Heberden, Dr. Pemberton, Dr. Babington, Dr. Marcet, Sir M. Tierney, Bart., Dr. Robert Bree, Henry Cline, Esq., John Abernethy, Esq., Sir William Blizard, Sir Everard Home, Bart., and Astley Cooper, Esq. &c., who appear upon its lists as Vice Presidents, Honorary Directors, or Life Governors.

To Sir M. Tierney, our most particular acknowledgments are offered, for the perseverance with which he has followed up the application of the committee for the favour of the Sovereign. It must, indeed, be remembered, however high the Physician may stand in the confidence of the Monarch, yet such is the etiquette of Courts, and such the necessary caution required in the confidential office of Physician about the Royal Person, that it cannot be expected that his services should keep pace with the extent of his own

wishes. It is well ascertained, that it is only by a strict and delicate adherence to the official etiquette of government, and of the Royal Household, that the requisite regularity in the different offices about the crown can be preserved. Individuals, and individual establishments may have cause to regret, when imperative routine stands in the way of their wishes; yet none have just cause to complain, when they reflect that public business cannot yield to private objects.

We have now only to add, that the mass of misery which existed among the sick children of the poor of the metropolis, previous to the establishment of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, is almost incredible. Too frequently has it happened, that the reduced condition of families, in the very lowest stage of indigence, has given a severity to diseases, by no means common under more affluent, or even more comfortable circumstances. But by the long established regulation of this Institution, to afford relief, in the first instance, without a letter of recommendation, much of that misery was early checked, and we trust will ultimately be extensively prevented.

It is, indeed, most remarkable, that nothing of this kind, in *our* days, should have been sooner attempted; but evident as the necessity for a specific *Institution for the prevention and cure of the numerous Diseases of Children*, must long have been, it could nevertheless scarcely have been anticipated, that, in the British metropolis, provided in every district with hospitals and dispensaries, there should yet have existed such an host of diseased fellow creatures, as the records of the *Universal Dispensary for Children* unanswerably prove to have been the case.

It is most important now to state that, after four years experience of the utility of the plan, the Institution has received within its doors, from 134 parishes,\* 10,263 sick infant poor, all of

\* *Underneath is a List, shewing the Parishes, and the Number of Children respectively admitted from each Parish into the Institution, since the opening in June 1816, to October 1, 1820.*

<i>Parishes within the Walls.</i>		No. of Child.	
	No. of Child.		
		St. Bennet, Paul's Wharf	148
St. Ann, Aldersgate	114	St. Bartholomew, Exchange	13
St. Ann, Black	611	St. Clement, Eastcheap	44
Allhallows, Bread-street	28	St. Christopher	4
St. Andrew, Wardrobe	526	Christ Church	76
St. Benedict	12	St. Dunstan, East	24

whom, with a very trifling exception, have been relieved, and the greatest number cured.

No. of Child.		No. of Child.	
St. Faith	9	St. Mary at Hill	12
St. Alphage, Sion College	5	St. Matthew, Friday Street	22
St. Gregory	84	St. Swithin, London Stone	23
St. Katherine Coleman Street	70	St. Nicholas, Cole Abbey	39
St. Katherine Cree Church	13	St. Pancras	41
St. Lawrence, Jewry	7	St. Peter, Paul's Wharf	66
St. Magnus, London Bridge	10	St. Stephen, Coleman-street	12
St. Margaret, Fish-street	38	St. Thomas the Apostle	25
St. Martin, Ludgate	155	Trinity Parish	70
St. Martin, Vintry	12	St. Mary Mounthaw, Old	
St. Mary, Abchurch	16	Fish-street	22
St. Mary, Aldermary	8	St. John Baptist	6
St. Mary, Le Bow	23	St. Mary, Somerset, do.	13
St. Mary Mag. Old Fish-st.	46	St. Michael, Crooked-lane	36
Allhallows, London-wall	26	St. Olave, Wood-street	3
St. Antholin, Watling-street	11	Allhallows, Barking	27
St. Bennett, Gracechurch-st.	16	Allhallows, Thames Street	23
St. James, Garlick-hithe	100	—	
St. Lawrence, Pountney	6	<i>Parishes without the Walls:</i>	
St. Helen	21	St. Dunstan, West	42
St. Mary, Woolnoth	10	St. John, Southwark	61
St. Michael, Cornhill	8	St. George, Southwark	551
St. Botolph, Billingsgate	12	St. Giles, Cripplegate	384
St. Michael, Wood-street	21	St. Olave, Southwark	101
St. Michael Royal	11	St. Saviour, do.	491
St. Michael, Queenhithe	173	St. Sepulchre	465
St. Mildred, Bread-street	26	St. Thomas, Southwark	24
St. John Evangelist	4	St. Andrew, Holborn	412
St. Mary, Aldermanbury	19	St. Botolph, Aldgate	71
St. Mary, Dowgate	11	St. Botolph, Aldersgate	113

The medical and surgical reports of the Physicians and Surgeons, published in the Me-

No. of Child.		<i>Out Parishes in the City and Liberties of Westminster.</i>	
St. Bartholomew the Great	61		
St. Bride	418		No. of Child.
St. Botolph, Bishopsgate	170	St. Clement Danes	73
Trinity, Minories	4	St. James, Westminster	31
Spitalfields	45	St. Margaret, do.	28
		St. Martin-in-the-Fields	47
		St. Mary-le-Strand	22
<i>Out Parishes in Middlesex and Surrey.</i>		St. Paul, Covent-garden	20
		St. John, Westminster	20
Christ Church, Surrey	495	Hoxton	18
Christ Church, Middlesex	257	Charlton	6
St. Dunstan, Stepney	118	Camberwell	8
St. George, Bloomsbury	17	Somers' Town	5
St. George, Middlesex	19	Liberty of the Rolls	33
St. Giles-in-the-Fields	158	Poplar	7
St. James, Clerkenwell	141	Limehouse	25
St. John, Hackney	40	Lewisham	6
St. John, Wapping	27	St. Mary-le-Bone	2
St. Leonard, Shoreditch	442	Hackney	3
St. Luke, Middlesex	662	Tottenham	6
St. Mary, Islington	20	Peckham	3
St. Mary, Lambeth	278	Dulwich	5
St. Mary Mag. Bermondsey	227	Ware	3
St. Mary, Newington	114	Chelsea	6
St. Mary, Whitechapel	121	Brentford	4
St. Matthew, Bethnal-green	154	Holloway	4
St. Paul, Shadwell	18	Enfield	2
St. Catherine, Tower	22	Bow	2
St. Ann, Middlesex	46	Battle Bridge	2

dico-Chirurgical Journal, the Medical Repository, and in this work shew, that, of the above number of patients, many hundreds have been attacked with inflammation of the lungs, inflammation of the brain, and water in the head, with fevers of a dangerous description, and with inflammations of the stomach, bowels, and other viscera of the abdomen, the greatest part of whom must have inevitably perished, if the Institution had not stepped forward to their prompt assistance and relief.

	No. of Child.		No. of Child.
Dockhead	2	Whereof have been cured	
Pentonville	2	and relieved	9,446
Bromley	3	Have died	222
Pancras	3	Have been vaccinated	358
Rotherhithe	5	Are upon the books and	
Islington	15	under cure	237
Kennington	13		<hr/>
Vauxhall	4		10,263
Mile End	7		<hr/>
Hampstead	11		
Ratcliff Highway	3		
Whitefriars	7		
	<hr/>		
Grand Total	10,263		
	<hr/>		

H. Cox, Apothecary.

Every impartial mind will surely admit, that the increasing number of applications, (the admissions amounting now to upwards of 3,000 patients annually) in proportion as the Charity becomes more generally known among the poor, speaks irresistibly in favour of its services, especially when we connect with this fact, the eagerness with which the poor resort to it, and the distance which they often come for medical and surgical advice:

In proportion too as a knowledge of the Institution has spread into remote parts, in the Parishes of Westminster, and in the out-parishes of Middlesex and Surrey, so have the poor resorted to it; but it is hoped, that as a new era has now commenced, the funds will ultimately enable the committee to extend its influence, through the general adoption of *Stations*, in all the remote parts of the metropolis—through *Stations* emanating from the Parent Institution, whose root is in the centre of the city, and whose branches, will soon be spread over the whole metropolis. A *Southwark Station*, by Guy's Hospital, in St. Thomas's Street, Southwark, under the superintendence of the Physicians, and Mr.

B. G. Davis, the Surgeon, takes under its healing wing, the sick infant poor of that vast district of the metropolis, and is ever open to assist them: and another *Station* in the Westminster Road, proclaims our ready and effectual help to the sick children of the necessitous poor in the populous and extensive district of Lambeth.

In the establishment of *Stations*, the public will no doubt contemplate with pleasure, the progress of the Institution; for, no sooner did the demands upon the Charity for assistance increase, from distant quarters of the metropolis, than the committee directed its attention to the completion of this part of the plan, pursuant to the original views of its Founders and earliest supporters; convinced as they were, that the most effectual way of rendering the Charity extensively useful to the Sick Infant Poor, was to augment the facilities for succour, by establishing and multiplying *Auxiliary Institutions* in populous neighbourhoods. The committee has therefore not hesitated, with limited means, to carry two *Stations* into effect, in the anticipation of following up this part of the plan of the Parent Institution, in numerous other districts, so that it may embrace

under its fostering branches, the poor and populous neighbourhoods of every quarter of the metropolis, in order that the Sick Infant Poor at a distance from, or near to the Dispensary on St. Andrew's Hill, may be equal participators in the benefits it holds out to this helpless, pitiable, and suffering class of our fellow creatures.

Neither is it a little satisfaction to boast, that the benefits conferred by the Charity have, in many instances, flown back upon it; the parents of several of the children, with a gratitude and consideration which do them the highest credit, having actually repaid the care taken of their children, by becoming annual supporters.

Results like these speak more emphatically than language can express, the vast importance and utility of the Institution. Indeed it may well be asked what would have been the fate of the 10,263 infants, those helpless fellow creatures, if the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, had not existed.

Where would the friendless wife or widow of the soldier or sailor, who had fought the battles

of his country, have found aid or assistance for her helpless babe? Where would indeed all the abject, lowly, friendless poor, who have resorted to this Charity, have found relief for their children? Would they have procured recommendations to hospitals or dispensaries for their infants? What would not have been their fate had there not existed an Institution that affords relief without recommendation, and that attends specifically to that class of patients?

To all those the Dispensary has opened its doors, and will we trust be perpetuated ever to unfold them to the sick and helpless Infant Poor: but the increasing demands upon it for aid, render increasing calls upon public benevolence imperative.

By the strictest economy the Institution has succeeded on a limited income—for limited it is, as will appear at once on a reference to the published Balance Sheets of each year: but as a greater expenditure will be now incurred by the establishment of Stations, an augmentation of its funds is essential to its future success and permanency.

But the public ought to be informed that the

house of the Dispensary is held by the year ; and is much out of repair. Besides which, as the practice of the Dispensary has considerably increased of late, there is now an actual want of proper accomodation for the patients. This is mentioned in the hope that individuals will be found to come forward and contribute to a fund for this necessary purpose.

Under the above circumstances, the committee is naturally desirous of providing premises better suited to the purposes of the Institution upon some permanent plan ; but as the money required for that purpose will be considerable, there is no alternative but that of coming before a benevolent public with an appeal in aid of a fund for that object, independent of the necessity for an increase of annual subscriptions.

It may also be permitted to notice that the committee would feel happy in finding new men unite their efforts with those of the committee, with new and extended interest, possessed not only of the power, but also, of the inclination to forward the designs of the Institution, and to press its claims in quarters where it has never yet personally been introduced.

Although the committees of successive years have with their own private influence and interest accomplished much for the Institution, have succeeded in procuring the highest patronage and sanction—and have forwarded the ends and designs of the charity, in establishing zealous partizans in aid of each successive festival; yet, when more support is now wanted, more aid is of course necessary; solicitations in fresh quarters, and new applications should be made through the various ramifications of general society. It is not in the power of one set of individuals, zealous and benevolent as they may be, to act with effect in all quarters—their influence must have limits, and their applications must have limits also.—With fresh friends their efforts may be revived with redoubled influence; and at proper intervals their own private solicitations be again urged with the happiest success!

The next subject to which it is incumbent on us to allude, is one, it may be hoped, the public will regard with a favourable eye, and indeed accept as an encouragement for fresh efforts. It is the gratifying fact, which the Editor feels happy to acknowledge, that the medical officers,

whose services, with the exception of the Apocary's, are gratuitous, are zealous, punctual, and humane in the discharge of their several duties. To have a guarantee like this among the officers of the superior departments, who cheerfully labour to fulfil the benevolent intentions of the Directors and Governors without fee or reward, cannot fail of having due weight with the public and, together with other circumstances, of calling forth the most active exertions to perpetuate the Institution.

Here then we close the first part of the records, for the present, of an Institution which we hesitate not to say, is, at least, one of the most important, that has ever emanated from the multifarious and judiciously discriminative benevolence of Britain!—of that country, of which the amiable and sensitive COWPER has so sweetly sung:

“ Here stay thy foot : how copious and how clear,  
 The overflowing well of *Charity* springs here !  
 Hark ! as the music of a thousand rills,  
 Some through the grove, some down the sloping hills,  
 Winding a secret, or an open course,  
 And all supplied from an eternal source !”

How much ought it to be to us also a source of honest pride, that the Charities of this country, and none more so than the one before us, spring from the purest fountain—from real goodness of heart without ostentation—a feeling so well described by the poet already quoted :

“Oh, never seen but in thy blest effects,  
Or felt but in the Soul that Heaven selects.”

THE UNIVERSAL  
DISPENSARY FOR CHILDREN,

*St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors' Commons,*

FOUNDED IN 1816,

For the sole Purpose of affording prompt Medical Aid to the Sick

CHILDREN OF THE NECESSITOUS POOR,

From the period of their Birth to the age of Twelve Years,  
from all parts of the Metropolis and its vicinity;

Supported by Voluntary Contributions,

AND OPEN,

IN CASES OF DANGER,

To a First Application for Relief without Recommendation;

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PATRONS.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex.

His Royal Highness Prince Leopold of  
Saxe Cobourg.

PATRONESSES.

Her Royal Highness Princess Augusta.

Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Kent.

Her Grace the Duchess of Beaufort.

Her Grace the Duchess of Buccleugh.

The Right Hon. the Countess Dowager of  
Stamford and Warrington.

## VICE PATRONS.

His Grace the Duke of Marlborough.  
 His Grace the Duke of Beaufort.  
 His Grace the Duke of Rutland.  
 His Grace the Duke of Grafton.  
 His Grace the Duke of Devonshire.  
 His Grace the Duke of Richmond.  
 The Most Noble the Marquis of Camden.

## PRESIDENT.

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor  
 (for the time being)

## VICE PRESIDENTS.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Stamford and  
 Warrington.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Euston.

The Right Hon. and Right Rev. the Lord  
 Bishop of London.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Chichester.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Winchester.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Chester.

The Hon. and Right Rev. Lord Bishop of  
 Durham

The Hon. and Right Rev. Lord Bishop of  
 Gloucester.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Ely.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of  
 Peterborough.

The Hon. and Rev. Anchitel Grey.

The Hon. S. Eardley.

Sir James McGrigor, Knt., M.D.

Sir Thomas Bell, Knt., Treasurer.

Charles Calvert, Esq., M.P.

Wilbraham Egerton, Esq., M.P.

George Byng, Esq., M.P.

Thomas Wilson, Esq. M.P.

Charles Barclay, Esq.

John Thomas Thorp, Esq., Ald.

William Mellish, Esq.

David Bevan, Esq.

The Rev. Dr. Collyer.

Dr. John Latham, F.R.S.,

President of the Royal College of Physicians.

Dr. Matthew Baillie, F.R.S

Dr. Robert Bree.

TREASURER.

Sir Thomas Bell, Knt., V.P.

SENIOR PHYSICIAN AND FOUNDER.

John B. Davis, M.D.

PHYSICIAN.

Dr. Thomas Addison.

SURGEONS.

John Allen Gillham, Esq.

Walter C. Dendy, Esq.

## APOTHECARY.

Mr. Harry Cox.

## OFFICERS OF THE SOUTHWARK STATION,

*St. Thomas Street, Borough.*

## PHYSICIANS.

Dr. John B. Davis.

Dr. Thomas Addison.

## SURGEON AND APOTHECARY.

Benjamin Goodwin Davis, Esq.

The committee consists of the Patrons, Vice Patrons, President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurer, all Life Directors and Life Governors, and Twenty-five Annual Governors.

The Twenty-five Annual Governors for  
1821 are,

John Abbott, Esq.

Thomas Rothwell, Esq.

James Seaton, Esq.

John Banks, Esq.

John Barker, Esq.

Knight Spencer, Esq.

Richard Vandome, Esq.

Robert Bromley, Esq.

Peter Davies, Esq.

James Cowie, Esq.

David Laing, Esq.

Timothy H. Davis, Esq.

George F. Davis, Esq.

Thomas Harding, Esq.

James Deans, Esq.

Richard Dendy, Esq.

Sampson Hanbury, Esq.

William Woodward, Esq.

James Robinson, Esq.

Thomas Marshall, Esq.

William Marshall, Esq.

James John Orlton, Esq.

George Brewis, Esq.

S. W. Sweet, Esq.

Joseph Walker, Esq.

The Directors and Governors for Life, Members of the Committee are,

Adams, E. R., Esq.

Bell, Sir Thomas, Knt. V.P. Treasurer.

L.D. Barclay, Charles, Esq.

Baillie, Dr. Matthew

Bacon, Huntly, Esq.

Barclay, Robert, Esq.

Bennett, William, Esq.

Bevan, David, Esq.

Biggs, Benjamin, Esq.

Brandon, H., Esq.

\* Those marked thus, L.D. are Directors for Life.

- Bree, Dr. Robert  
 Brown, Robert, Esq.  
 Brown, Benjamin, Esq.  
 Buckle, J. W., Esq.  
 L.D. By, George, Esq.  
 Cooper, H. D., Esq.  
 Calvert, Charles, Esq., M.P.  
 Collyer, Rev. Dr.  
 Cullen, Charles, Esq.  
 Currey, Robert, Esq.  
 L.D. Davis, John B., M.D.  
 Durham, Bishop of  
 Eardley, Hon. S.  
 Egerton, Wilbraham, Esq. M.P.  
 Ely, Bishop of,  
 Gaitskell, Henry, Esq.  
 L.D. Grey, Hon. and Rev. Anchitel  
 Grigor, Mc., Sir James  
 Harvey, George, C., Esq.  
 Hawes, Benjamin, Esq.  
 Hawes, Thomas, Esq.  
 Hayes, James, Esq.  
 Hedger, Robert, Esq.  
 Hedger, William, Esq.  
 Hedger, Francis, Esq.  
 Heylyn, H. Esq.

- Latham, Dr. John  
 Langton, Z. Esq.  
 Liverpool, Earl of,  
 London, Bishop of,  
 L.D. Marlborough, Duke of  
 Maude, James, Esq.  
 L.D. Mellish, W., Esq.  
 Moulden, Thomas, Esq.  
 Oxford, Bishop of  
 Pratt, William, Esq.  
 Saxe Cobourg, Leopold, H.R.H. Prince  
 Shapter, Dr.  
 Skelton, George, Esq.  
 Smith, Christopher, Esq., Ald.  
 L.D. Stamford and Warrington, Earl  
 Sussex, Duke of, H.R.H.  
 L.D. Thorp, J. T. Esq., Ald.  
 Turner, Skinner, Esq.  
 Walters, J., Esq.  
 Winchester, Bishop of  
 Wilson, J. B., Esq.  
 Williams, William, Esq. M.P.  
 Williams, Robert, Esq. M.P.  
 Wilson, Thomas, Esq. M.P.  
 Wood, Matthew, Esq. Ald. M.P.  
 Wright, Dr.  
 Young, Florance, Esq.

**AUDITORS.**

E. R. Adams, Esq.  
 George Gimber, Esq.  
 Captain James Deans.  
 J. T. Gellibrand, Esq.  
 James Cowie, Esq.

**CHURCH COMMITTEE.**

John Abbott, Esq.  
 E. R. Adams, Esq.  
 James Cowie, Esq.  
 John B. Davis, M.D.  
 William Marshall, Esq.

**SECRETARY.**

Mr. Henry Richards.

**COLLECTOR**

Mr. Henry Chrishard.

# RULES

AND

## REGULATIONS.

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THIS Institution consists of Patrons, Vice Patrons, Patronesses, a President, Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, Life and Annual Directors, Honorary Directors, Life and Annual Governors, together with such officers as may be deemed necessary.

Any branch of the Royal Family becoming a member of this Institution, shall be deemed a Patron or Patroness.

### II.

A Subscription of *One Guinea* annually constitutes a Governor, with the right of having *two patients* on the books at a time: a Subscription of *Two Guineas* annually constitutes a Governor with the right of having *four patients* on the books at a time, and a *double vote* at all Elections.

## III.

A benefaction of *Ten Guineas*, or a contribution of this sum within the year, constitutes a Governor for Life, with the privilege of having *four patients* on the books at a time. A benefaction of *Twenty Guineas*, or a contribution of this sum within the year constitutes a Director for Life, with the privilege of having an unlimited number of patients on the books at one time.—*Directors* have a *double vote* at all elections.

## IV.

Any person leaving the Institution a legacy of FIFTY POUNDS, all his or hers Executors shall be made Governors for Life: any person leaving the Charity a legacy of *One Hundred Pounds* or more, all his or her Executors shall be made Directors for Life.

## V.

All Directors and Governors to be furnished with printed instructions for the domestic management of Children, for gratuitous distribution.

## VI.

All Governors have a right to attend General Meetings.—Directors and Governors for Life are members of all Committees.

## VII.

At the General Meeting in November, twenty-five annual Governors shall be chosen to form a Committee for conducting the affairs of the Institution; they may make by-laws, subject to the approbation of the next General Meeting. They are to inspect the tradesmen's accounts, but no extraordinary expence or salary can be allowed without the approbation of a General Meeting. Five Auditors shall be also chosen to examine the Accounts of the Institution, Two only of whom can be Members of the Monthly Committee.

The Patrons, Vice Patrons, President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurer are members of all committees:

Five members shall be deemed a quorum:

## VIII.

With a view of obtaining an effectual Committee, the Monthly Committee at their Meeting in October are to prepare and submit to

the General Meeting in November, a list of the names of the eight gentlemen who have attended the fewest times in the course of the Year, who shall retire; and they are also to suggest the names of such annual Governors as appear to them proper persons to be chosen on the Committee in their place.

## IX.

General Meetings are to be held the *first Wednesday* in every *May* and *November*, at eleven for twelve o'clock at the DISPENARY. Seven Directors or Governors shall make a quorum.

## X.

An extraordinary general meeting may be called by the Patrons, or either of them; or by the President or Vice Presidents; or by a requisition signed by five Members of the Monthly committee, or by any fifteen of the Directors and Governors, specifying the occasion thereof addressed to the Secretary, who shall summon a meeting accordingly by public advertisement, and by a circular letter to all the Directors and Governors, which letter shall contain a copy of the requisition.

## XI.

Surplus monies to be invested in the Funds in the names of three trustees, and the dividends to be received by power of attorney, by the Treasurer.

## XII.

No person is eligible for a Physician unless he is a Fellow or Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of London.

## XIII.

No person is eligible for a Surgeon unless he is a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of London.

## XIV.

No person is eligible for an Apothecary unless he has attended lectures on the practice of Physic, Chemistry, and the Materia Medica; and has dispensed Medicines at least one year in some public Medical Institution, or private shop of repute.

## XV.

No election of officers, &c. can be made, until

fourteen days after the public advertisement of a vacancy, and all elections to be by ballot.

#### XVI.

No person can vote at an election until all his or her arrears be first paid up. Members of Parliament and Ladies may vote by proxy; also Directors and Governors residing more than two miles from the place of election, or if unable to attend from illness, provided the same be supported by a medical certificate.

#### XVII.

No child afflicted with the SMALL-POX shall be allowed the benefit of this Institution.

#### XVIII.

Every Medical Officer is eligible to be on Committees. Such as are not so elected, may attend Committee Meetings to make reports on business connected with their department, but they are not competent to vote or interfere in the domestic management of the Institution.

## THE COMMITTEE

Consists of all Directors and Governors for life, and of the twenty-five annual Governors chosen at the general meeting in November.

They shall meet the last Monday in every Month at half past six in the Evening, at the Dispensary.

Five members constitute a quorum.

They are to examine the tradesmen's accounts at their meeting in October, and order the same for payment in November: and they shall prepare at that meeting a list of the Names of the eight Gentlemen, chosen on the Committee from the annual Governors, who have attended the Monthly Committees the *fewest Times* in the course of the Year, and they are also to suggest the names of such annual Governors as appear to them proper persons to be chosen on the Committee in their place.

## THE TREASURER

Shall receive all monies on account of the Institution, and pay all drafts regularly drawn on him by any three of the Committee, one of whom must be the chairman. His accounts shall be laid before the Committee every third month, and be audited twice a year.

## THE PHYSICIANS.

A Physician shall attend at the Dispensary every day (Sunday excepted) to give advice, and prescribe for such patients as shall be brought to him: and in cases of *danger*, he shall invariably administer assistance on a *first application, without recommendation.*

## THE SURGEONS.

A Surgeon shall attend every day (Sunday excepted) to administer to such cases in his department, as shall be brought to him.

In cases of *danger* he shall attend to *a first application without recommendation*.

He shall vaccinate any child without recommendation, and offer to vaccinate such children, with the consent of their parents, as may have been patients of the Institution.

## THE APOTHECARY

Shall reside at the Dispensary, and be in daily attendance till one o'clock or longer, if necessary, and always be in readiness when the Physician or Surgeon is on duty.

He shall register in a book to be kept for that purpose the name of every patient, under the direction of the Physicians and Surgeons, and keep any other record of business they may deem proper.

He shall deliver, at the Physicians's order, the printed instructions of the Dispensary to the patients, and distribute blank letters and printed instructions to the Collector, and to such Governors as may apply for them.

He shall see that the apartments are fit for the reception of the Committee and Medical Officers.

He shall not administer drugs nor medicines to any but the patients of the charity; and,

From four to six o'clock in the evening, he shall dispense to such patients as may require a repetition of their medicines.

He shall give printed or written directions, or both, as the case may require, with the patients medicines.

He shall make Reports of the Patients diseases, of the number of patients admitted, cured, dead, vaccinated, and remaining under cure, and also a return of the parishes from which the patients come, once a quarter, to Dr. Davis, or the senior Physician for the time being, for publication, the same to be taken from the Admission Register.

He is to administer his assistance at any hour in a case of urgency, without recommendation.

He shall see that the Dispensary be opened every morning at ten o'clock, and he shall attend from that hour until the Physician and Surgeon have prescribed for all the patients, and until they are supplied with their medicines, and see that all the apartments of the Dispensary for the accommodation of patients and for the Medical Officers, be in readiness at half past nine daily.

No person is at any time to be allowed to act as an assistant to the Apothecary, unless he be first approved of by the Physicians, and satisfies them of his competency to compound and

dispense medicines, and to prescribe for such cases of sudden and serious illness as may be brought to the Dispensary, in the interval of the Physician's hours of attendance.

The Apothecary shall not at any time absent himself from the Dispensary during the hours of business, without previously informing the Physician in attendance of it, and first finding a substitute to supply his Place, who must be approved of by the Physician: neither shall he absent himself from the Dispensary for more than two days, without first obtaining the consent of the Committee.

He shall enter in a clear manner in a Day Book for the purpose, all Bills of Parcels from the Druggist, Printer, and every Tradesman or Person whatever, employed on account of the Dispensary, and whose account shall be sent to the Apothecary; and he shall regularly add up and carry forward the amounts of the same, and lay such book before the Committee at their Meetings, and shall mark these Accounts when paid.

## THE SECRETARY

That the Secretary do summon regularly, and attend all General Meetings of the Governors, and Special General Meetings, all Meetings of the Monthly Committee and Auditors, and the Meetings of the Stewards for the Anniversary Festival.

That he do prepare all letters and forms of application to the Patrons, President, or others who may be required to preside and attend at the Annual Festival, and do *personally* render his assistance in procuring a Chairman for the Festival, and the attendance of the Vice Presidents and others, under the direction of the Stewards or Committee.

That he do prepare, in writing, a Balance Sheet, shewing the receipt and expenditure for the year, with the balance of money in hand for the Treasurer to report at the Festival, first

signed by the Auditors or the Committee, immediately previous to the Anniversary Dinner.

That he do prepare and 'cause Invitations to be sent to each Governor, to attend the Festival and Anniversary Sermon, at least three weeks previous to such Festival and Sermon; and at the same time do take care that proper advertisements be inserted in the Daily Papers, notifying the same.

That he do keep a regular Minute Book of the Stewards proceedings, in which shall be inserted a distinct account of each Steward's Fines, Contributions, and Governors; and a statement of the several heads of expenditure, on account of the Festival, which book is to be laid before the meeting of the Committee, next following the final meeting of the Stewards after the Anniversary.

That he do pay all Monies received at, and on account of the Festival, immediately into the hands of the Treasurer.

That he do attend all Meetings of the Church

Committee, and that he do summon the Monthly and Church Committees, to attend all Sermons.

That he do, without delay, (when directed by the Church or Monthly Committee) *personally* solicit Rectors and Churchwardens for Sermons; and do regularly record their answers in the Minute Book of the Church Committee, and report the same to the next Monthly Committee, together with any other business of the Church Committee.

That he do prepare bills for the Sermons, under the direction of the Church Committee, and do take care that they are printed and distributed one week previous.

That a rough Minute Book be kept of the proceedings of the Committee.

That he do keep a correct list of the Governors, shewing when their subscriptions become due, when they were last paid, and those in arrear: and that he do annually prepare, in December, or sooner if required, a correct copy of the Book of Rules, and a List of Governors,

to be printed under the direction of the committee, and that he do assist in revising and carrying the same through the press.

That he do prepare a list of agenda, embracing in it all resolutions not acted upon, to be brought forward at each Committee; and also of any business which may have stood over for further consideration.

That he do carry into immediate effect all Resolutions and Orders of the General and Special General Meetings, and of the Monthly and Church Committees.

That if unavoidably prevented from attending the Monthly Committees or General Meetings, or Special General Meetings, he do send a letter to the Chairman, with the books, and an account of the business for the Meeting, in which case the Committee will name a Substitute from among themselves.

That he do keep a petty Cash Account, and submit the same to the Committee at each of their Monthly Meetings.

That he do collect, quarterly, all bills against the Dispensary, and examine and lay the same before the **Monthly Committee** at their ensuing meeting.

That as an officer of the Institution, he do exert himself upon all occasions, to promote the welfare, and success, and permanency of the Charity : and that he do *strictly* conform to the above regulations, and do carry into execution the orders of all Committees, General and Special General Meetings, Meetings of Stewards, and all General and Special Committees.

That he do draw up the usual routine of business for the Chairman at the Festival, and upon the same being approved by the Stewards, that he do personally assist in carrying it into effect.

That the Secretary may receive Subscriptions and other incidental Monies, but shall pay them over *immediately* to the Treasurer.

## THE COLLECTOR.

Shall produce two securities to be approved of by the Committee, who shall enter into a bond with him in the penal sum of £100 each for the faithful performance of his duties.

He shall collect the subscriptions regularly as they become due, and pay the same into the hands of the Treasurer; he shall not retain more than the amount of £20 in his possession longer than seven days, on pain of being discharged.

He shall deliver the summonses for all Committees, attend the same, and account to them as he shall be required.

He shall keep a correct book of all receipts of subscriptions, which he shall lay before the committee monthly, and shall deliver commendatory letters when he receives subscriptions.

### THE AUDITORS.

Five Auditors, two only of whom can be Members of the Monthly Committee, are chosen annually at the general meeting in November, and are to audit the accounts the last Wednesday in the months of June and December, and sign the same. The Auditors are to be summoned by the Secretary on each of the said days, and such summonses are to be given to each of the Auditors, at least one week previous to such meetings.

## FORM OF A LEGACY.

To such as are inclined to become Benefactors by Will to this Institution, the following Form of a Legacy is recommended.

“ I give and bequeath to the Patrons, Patronesses, Vice Patrons, President, Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Directors, Governors and Governesses of the Universal Dispensary for Children, No. 5, St. Andrew’s Hill, Doctors’ Commons, the sum of        to be applied towards carrying on the benevolent Designs of the said Charity.”

N.B. Gifts by will, of land, or of money, or stock to be *laid out in the purchase of any lands*, for charitable uses, are void by the statute of Mortmain; but money or stock may be given by will, if not directed to be *laid out in land*.

MEDICAL  
AND  
*SURGICAL PRACTICE.*

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OBSERVATIONS—REPORTS, &c.

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ONE of the principal objects of the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, is to point out the great importance of, and to direct the attention of the medical world to the pathological physiology of the diseases incident to the infant frame, in order to bring this interesting department of medical science to that high degree of practical maturity, which distinguishes all the other branches of the modern practice of medicine, in its general and extended application to every period of life. It is a fact, that the student who has indefatigably devoted himself to the study of the theory and the practice of his profession, as far as lectures and the hospitals offer him an opportunity, during his attendance in the metropolis, and who has thus qualified himself for a general practitioner, feels him-

self far more deficient in a knowledge of the nature, seat, and character of the diseases of children, when he commences the arduous practice of his profession, than of the diseases incident to any other period of life. With a view, therefore, to assist him in supplying this deficiency, and to excite his attention, not only Lectures on the Theory and Practice of Medicine, in relation to the Diseases of Infancy, are delivered at the Institution, and at the Southwark Station, founded on the cases admitted, out of which a selection is made for clinical improvement: but medical reports, in a chronological order, exhibiting a faithful picture of the character of infantine disease, are offered as they have appeared in each of the seasons during four years, and have been published, being now brought before the public in a concentrated point of view, in further proof of the interesting pathological enquiries involved in such diseases; in hopes of their forming the basis for attaining more correct ideas, of the nature, seat, and treatment of many of the most fatal disorders to which children are liable.

It is reasonable also to hope, that by separating the *study* of the Diseases of Children, as

in this Institution, from that of the Diseases of Women, with which they have hitherto been always connected, the stream of science in this department, will flow and keep pace with the progress of science in all the other branches of the Healing Art.

Abstruse and unpromising as the subject may appear in the limited and imbecile state of our present knowledge of the laws of living bodies, there is, most assuredly, an opening for the exercise of genius, in the investigation of the physiology and pathology of the human brain. There are flowers in abundance yet to cull in the Temple of Fame. He who could fortunately soar into those regions, over which the veil of obscurity appears to be drawn, might obtain a laurel that would flourish to the latest posterity. Far be it from us to suppose, that we can pretend to dive into these hidden tracks. Our's, rather be the humble attempt of calling forth the talents of others, of contributing by our own diligence, observation, and accuracy—in the collection and inculcation of facts—our share towards promoting, step by step, the slow march of science, as respects the nature and the treat-

ment of Infantine Disease. “*Curæ testimonium meruisse contenti.*”

In another point of view, it is an imperative duty, on the part of those Physicians and Surgeons who are placed in public situations, which afford those ample opportunities for observation that others have not, to communicate the result of the knowledge they acquire, to the profession at large. This duty they will surely never shrink from. It is a debt they owe, and one which it is their interest to discharge. They cannot expect to guide the current of opinion, with respect to disease, unless they satisfy the minds of the profession, of the pretensions they have to their confidence; and this is only to be effected by the free communication of the knowledge they may obtain.

## CATALOGUE

OF THE

CASES admitted under the PHYSICIAN since the opening of the DISPENSARY, (Midsummer 1816, to January 1817,) taken from the Admission Register.

Cases under the Physician		Cases under the Physician.	
Diseases.	No. of Cases.	Diseases.	No. of Cases.
Febris Continua - - -	20	Rachitiscum tabe Mesenterica	1
— Remittens - - -	15	Tussis (sine febre) - - -	45
— Hectica - - -	20	Tussis cum Dyspnœa - - -	3
— Quotidiana - - -	4	Dyspnœa (a nativitate) - -	4
— Tertianæ - - -	6	Tormina - - - - -	7
— Catarrhalis epidemica	215	Enteritis - - - - -	6
Tabes Mesenterica - - -	18	Dysenteria - - - - -	10
Febricula, a dentitione vel		Cholera Morbus - - - -	9
alvo adstricta - - -	46	Varicella - - - - -	10
Ascarides - - - - -	10	Pertussis - - - - -	16
Lumbrici - - - - -	12	Epistaxis - - - - -	1
Tænia - - - - -	2	Hæmoptysis - - - - -	2
Cynanche Parotidea - - -	10	Morbilli - - - - -	62
— Tonsillaris - - -	7	Chorea Sancti Viti - - -	8
— Trachealis - - -	14	Spasmi Musculorum - - -	1
Convulsiones a dentitione		Icterus - - - - -	10
vel torminibus - - -	13	Scarlatina - - - - -	24
Diarrhœa - - - - -	23	Dolor Capitis c vertigine -	4
Ascites, post pertussin - -	5	— ——— periodicus -	1
Anasarca - - - - -	5	— ——— et lateris -	1
Atrophia - - - - -	13	— ——— cum syncope	7
Rachitis - - - - -	12	— ——— cum anorexia	1

Cases under the Physician.		Cases under the Physician.	
Diseases.	No. of Cases.	Diseases.	No. of Cases.
Dolor Ventriculicardialgia	5	Herpes - - - - -	10
Crusta Lactea - - - -	23	Eruptiones Anomalæ cum febre - - - - -	43
Aphthæ - - - - -	4	Psellismus - - - - -	2
Otalgia - - - - -	1	Bulimia - - - - -	1
Palpitatio Cordis - - -	1	Ischuria - - - - -	1
Dolor Lateris (spasmod) -	2		
Dyspepsia - - - - -	1		
Erysipelas totius corporis -	4		904
———— brachii - - -	1		
———— faciei - - -	2		
Leucorrhæa infantilis - -	1		
Aphonia - - - - -	1	Surgical Cases communicated by the Surgeons.	
Scorbutus - - - - -	3	Mr. Pettigrew.	
Epilepsia - - - - -	3	Ophthalmia - - - - -	5
Alvus incerta cum Vomitionibus - - - - -	2	Scrophula - - - - -	5
Scrophula - - - - -	14	Herpes - - - - -	5
Pneumonia - - - - -	17	Morbus Coxæ - - - - -	2
Hydrocephalus Acutus -	4	Incontinentia Urinæ - -	2
———— chronicus -	1	Tumor Tibiæ - - - - -	1
Morbus Lienis - - - - -	2	Excoriatio - - - - -	3
Paralysis - - - - -	4	Tinea Capitis - - - - -	8
Splenalgia - - - - -	2	Fractura - - - - -	1
Hæmatemesis - - - - -	1	Inflammatiō Tarsi - - -	1
Asthma - - - - -	3	Psora - - - - -	3
Essera - - - - -	2	Ustio - - - - -	1
Lipothymia a vermibus -	4	Abscessus - - - - -	3
Ephidrosis - - - - -	1	Inflammatiō labii pundendæ	1
Enuresis - - - - -	3	Pernio - - - - -	1
Dysuria - - - - -	2	Ulcera - - - - -	2
Pustulæ cum febre - - -	13	Spina Incurvata - - -	1
Vesiculæ cum febre - - -	6	Caries ossis temporis dextri	1
Bullæ cum febre - - -	3		
Urticaria - - - - -	8		46

## Cases under the Surgeon.

Mr. Gillham.

	No. of Cases.
Scrophula - - - - -	6
Tinea Capitis - - - - -	1
Phymosis - - - - -	2
Tumor Genu - - - - -	2
Psora - - - - -	5
Ophthalmia - - - - -	3
Perniones - - - - -	3
Hernia Scrotalis - - - - -	1
Ustio - - - - -	1
Herpes - - - - -	2
Abscessus - - - - -	2
Vagina imperforata - - - - -	1
	<hr/> 29

Mr. Wasdell.

Abscessas Gingivarum - - - - -	1
Ophthalmia - - - - -	5
Scrophula - - - - -	3
Tumor Scroti - - - - -	2
Prolapsus ani - - - - -	1
Exomphalos - - - - -	1
Tibiæ Incurvatæ - - - - -	1
Impetigo - - - - -	3
Herpes - - - - -	6
Contusiones - - - - -	6

## Cases under the Surgeon.

	No. of Cases.
Ulcera - - - - -	4
Tumor Palpebrarum - - - - -	1
Vulnus Scrotis - - - - -	1
Tinea Capitis - - - - -	5
Lippitudo - - - - -	2
Fractura ossis Femoris - - - - -	1
Ustio - - - - -	1
Abscessus Pedis - - - - -	1
	<hr/> 42
Total Number of Admissions, including the Physicians and Surgeons Patients to Jan. 30, 1817.	1021

Of the children that died, six were under one year of age, of whom two had colliquative diarrhœa, from mesenteric disease; four, influenza, and one, fits; eight under 2 years, of whom two had colliquative diarrhœa, from mesenteric disease, one the measles, one dropsy on the brain, one general dropsy, and two hooping cough; four under 4 years, of whom one had the measles, one a diseased spleen, one water on the head, one a pulmonary affection after influenza, and one hooping cough, after croup; one under 6 years, who had dropsy, combined with dysentery, after the scarlet fever; and one under 8 years of age, who had water on the head.

It is also worth remarking that, of the fatal epidemical influenza of this season, only four children have died out of 215 admitted into the Dispensary, which is a strong and evident confirmation of the benefit resulting from open admission when the case is urgent, and immediate assistance required.

It is evident from the above list, that the most prevalent diseases among children during the winter, have been the Peripneumony, or In-

fluenza of infants, Measles, Hooping Cough, Scarlet Fever, Mumps, and a variety of acute glandular affections. In November, the Influenza began to attack children in different districts of the metropolis, and the adjacent villages. It first produced high inflammation in the lining of the trachea and its numerous ramifications, then in the lungs; and in the fatal instances of the disease, a change of texture ensued in the membrane, together with effusion into the bronchial tubes. Influenza was frequently observed to precede the Measles, and sometimes the Croup; and in the milder cases of it, an obstinate cough and periodical fever, which resisted the ordinary means of treatment, frequently followed. Whenever it preceded the appearance of the Measles, this disease was invariably severe, and unless the inflammatory diathesis occasioned by influenza was overcome prior to the eruption, a loss of sensorial power with symptoms denoting approaching effusion ensued.

Notwithstanding the number of severe cases of measles admitted into the Dispensary, only one ended fatally; but in all those preceded by influenza, it was necessary to have recourse to the

most vigorous treatment in the commencement to avert a fatal termination.

Is it not probable that the great mortality from the Measles this season in the counties of Sussex and Suffolk, has had its source in the inflammatory diathesis, induced by a previous attack of influenza, and which was not removed before the action arising from the introduction of measles supervened?

A peripneumonic affection, similar to an advanced case of influenza, has latterly constituted a primary disease in Hooping Cough, and rendered it unusually intractable. This was the case in the fatal instances recorded of this disorder.

By the long continuance of a mild temperature of the air, influenza is less formidable than it was at the approach of the cold season. Still, however, it is a predominant disease among children.

The reporter never recollects to have seen the Mumps and glandular affections of the throat so

general as they have been throughout the whole course of the winter.

Of the cases recorded of scarlet fever, three were followed by the dropsy, and one by dysentery combined with dropsy, which ended unfavourably.

At this period, a small work, comprising an enquiry into *some* of the *principal causes* of *Mortality* among Children was published by the Founder. To preserve the connection of the Medical, with the general proceedings and progress of the Institution, the following analysis of that work is inserted, as, in some measure, descriptive of its utility and precise object.

*A Cursory Inquiry into some of the principal Causes of Mortality among Children, with a View to assist in ameliorating the State of the rising Generation, in Health, Morals, and Happiness: to which is added, an Account of the Universal Dispensary for Sick Indigent Children.* By JOHN BUNNELL DAVIS, M.D. Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians, Senior Physician to the London Dispensary, &c. London, 1817.

This little work, although not strictly medical, is intimately connected with medical science, inasmuch as it professes to advocate the establishment of a charitable institution for the treatment of children only, when labouring under illness, which may in its progress facilitate the investigation of infantile diseases, enable us to ascertain more accurately the principal causes of them, and conduct us to a knowledge of more successful means for their prevention and cure than we have yet been able to attain by the present promiscuous admission of adults and children in our medical charities. However questionable may

be the advantages of a minute subdivision of the healing art, when the views of a practitioner are exclusively directed, and his education solely confined to his own particular branch of practice, no one can doubt the utility that may arise from rescuing the children of the poor from the ignorant and illiterate empiric, to whom they are in the present state of things too often consigned, and bringing them under the management of a judicious physician. It must be confessed, that in the lower ranks of life, where the operation of various moral and physical causes, prejudicial to health and destructive to life, are more extensively active, the effects of these upon the tender frame and feeble constitution of infants, have been too much disregarded, whilst in sickness the most preposterous methods are resorted to for a cure, which ignorant superstition can devise and blind credulity listen to. Much of this evil arises, no doubt, from a vulgar prejudice, not confined, we are sorry to say, to the lowest classes, that physicians know nothing of children's diseases, and that an old nurse is the best doctor. Were no other good effected by this new establishment, than the removal of this prejudice, we should say much had been done ;

but we feel convinced that great actual benefit will be conferred on medical science, from the opportunity thus afforded, of forming general principles by cautious induction from the numerous facts which must present themselves in so extensive a collection of cases, as will by this means be brought together and concentrated in one spot. By the active zeal and unwearied exertions of the author of this pamphlet, by interesting some of the most illustrious characters in the objects of his views, and producing, through the means of a spirited and animated address, an universal conviction of the extent of benefit to be derived from his intended plan, he has at length succeeded in establishing a Dispensary for Poor Children.

The “Cursory Inquiry,” although well adapted for conveying to the general reader, correct notions of the causes unfavourable to the successful rearing up of the progeny of the poor, and an intelligible account of the best means of obviating them, pretends not to contain any thing new or unknown to the *medical world*. Every physician’s experience must have made him acquainted with the former, and have afforded him frequent opportunities of practising the latter.

But that much possible benefit is to be derived to medical science, or improvement made in the healing art, by means of this exclusive establishment, we may fairly anticipate, when we see the avidity with which the poor in this metropolis embrace the advantages held out to them by this Charity, and when we consider the zeal of the medical officers to whom the management of the concern is entrusted. Within seven months during which the Dispensary had been open, 1021 children were admitted, of whom 19 appear to have died.

To the Editor of the Medico-Chirurgical Journal.

“ DEAR SIR,

A correct return of the diseases which have prevailed among children during the last year, taken from the cases concentrated at the Universal Dispensary for the Infant Poor, will, I doubt not, be deemed by the medical public a valuable record in the Annals of Medicine.

Under this impression, I have considered it a duty to draw up the following Report upon the cases which have come under my care, as the physician of that Institution : and should such an

account, which has faithfully been prepared from authentic sources, appear to you a desirable acquisition, you will, I may venture to conclude, feel a pleasure in circulating the same, through the medium of your much admired and invaluable Journal.

I am,

Dear Sir,

Your's faithfully,

J. B. DAVIS, M.D.

103, Great Surry Street, Blackfriars,

August 19, 1817.

*List of Cases received under the Care of the Physician at the Universal Dispensary for Children, St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors' Commons, London; from January 30 to July 31, 1817.*

DISEASES.	Number of Cases received in each Month.						Total Number.
	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	
Febris - - - - -	2	4	4	2	1	12	25
Febris catarrhalis epidem	14	4	7	1			26
Febris post morbillos -			3	5	6	7	21
Febris remittens et hectica	6	22	5	16	14		63
Febris periodica - - -	1						1
Febris quotidiana - -		1	2				3
Phrenitis - - - - -			4		11		15
Cynanche tonsillaris -	10	10			1		21
Cynanche parotidea - -		2	11	12		2	27
Pneumonia - - - - -		7	2	1	10	1	21
Scarlatina - - - - -					8	6	14
Morbilli - - - - -	13		11	4	1	8	37
Varicella - - - - -	1	3			2		6
Urticaria - - - - -	7			11			18
Rheumatismus acutus -		8		10			18
Epistaxis - - - - -					1		1
Euteritis - - - - -			1		7	10	18
Dysentaria - - - - -			1	1	2	1	5
Diarrhœa - - - - -	7	15	10	3	2	5	42
Cholera - - - - -	2	1	7	1		2	13
Pertussis - - - - -	4	12	11	6	4	7	44
Tussis - - - - -		8	8	2	10	12	40
Tussis cum dyspnœa -		1	1	1			3
Dyspnœa - - - - -	2	1				2	5
Phthisis - - - - -	1		1				2
Hæmoptoe - - - - -	1	1					2
Convulsiones - - - -	9	2	4	7	5	2	29
Chorea - - - - -	2	2	3		1		8
Dolor capitis - - - -	3	4	2	5	3		17
Vomitus - - - - -	2	1		5	4	2	14
Odontalgia - - - - -		1	1				2
Otalgia - - - - -				1			1
Dolor capitis periodicus				3			3
Surditas - - - - -			1				1
Tormina - - - - -	2	2	3	2			9
Paralysis - - - - -	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Hydrocephalus - - } (acute 7, chronic 13)	2	1	3	2		12	20
Carried over	92	114	107	102	94	92	60

*List of Cases received under the Care of the Physician at the Universal Dispensary for Children, St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors' Commons, London; from January 30 to July 31, 1817.*

DISEASES.	Number of Cases received in each Month.						Total Number.
	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	
Brought over - -	92	114	107	102	94	92	601
Icterus - - - - -	4	5	7		4	1	21
Leucorrhœa - - - -		1	1				2
Tabes mesenterica - -	12	6	4	3			25
Rachitis - - - - -		1	3		2	12	18
Vermes - - - - -							
(lumbrici 12, ascarides 11, tænia 4) - - - }	9		5	8	5		27
Hydrops - - - - -	1	2	1	1	1		6
Eruptiones variæ sine febre	13	5	6	6	16	1	47
Eruptiones cum febre -		2	10		6		18
Erysipelas - - - -	2	3	1	3	1		10
Lepa - - - - -						2	2
Bullæ - - - - -	1						1
Elephantiasis - - - -	1						1
	135	139	145	123	129	108	779
Surgical cases - - - -	38	23	42	51	31	19	204
Totals	173	162	187	174	160	127	983

Whereof have been cured - - - - 739

\* Have died - - - - 25

Are upon the books, and under cure - - 219

983

Of the twenty-five children as above,\* four died of measles, and were under five years of age; two of pneumonia, and were under four; six of

colliquative diarrhœa, and were under two; three of hooping-cough, of whom one was nine months old, and the other two under three years of age; two of convulsions, and were under two; one of phrenitis, who was seven years of age; four of hydrocephalus, and were under three; and three of tabes mesenterica, under two.

The list of cases shews that the prevalent diseases, at times, for five months, were measles, bilious remitting fever, mumps, inflammatory sore throat, inflammation of the brain and lungs, scarlet fever, rheumatism, diarrhœa, inflammation of the bowels, cholera morbus, hooping-cough, hydrocephalus, catarrhal fever, jaundice, nettle rash, and St. Anthony's fire.

*Total number of Admissions from the Opening of the Dispensary, June 24, 1816, to July, 1817.*

Total cured and relieved	- - - - -	1490
Total died	- - - - -	39
Total inoculated for cow-pox	- - - - -	70
At this time upon the books, as irregulars		
and under cure	- - - - -	397

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1996

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Total number admitted under the

Physician - - - - - 1674

Total number admitted under the

Surgeons - - - - - 322

— 1996

From the date of the above Report to the end of February, 1817, influenza prevailed with the same degree of severity as in the months of November and December. Many of the worst cases occurred in the middle of February. At the attack, high pyrexia came on, with a quick respiration, severe cough, and a profuse discharge of acrid mucus from the pituitary membrane and the bronchiæ. In children of four and five months of age, the secretion was so excessive as to interpose a considerable obstacle to respiration and to excite a perpetual desire to cough. This produced a spasmodic affection of the diaphragm and larynx, and a general irritation and perturbation of the whole system. In the state described, the interruption to respiration was frequent; a convulsive catch was perceptible in the muscles of the neck, and in the respiratory muscles: and in the worst instances of the disease, convulsive motions of the whole body ensued, with occasional

suspensions of the breath, of some moments duration; from which state, however, the individual has been found to revive, and, oftener than once, to recover.

Now and then, inflammation of the lungs seemed to be the primary, and not the secondary disease. A cough has, in the first instance, attacked children, with difficult and apparently painful respiration, and severe pyrexia; whilst the countenance has been flushed, the eyes red, the tongue white, and the urine high-coloured. These symptoms frequently occurred about the middle of February, without any previous affection of the mucous membrane; but, when they did happen to be preceded by a catarrhal discharge, sneezing, and an irritable state of the lining of the trachea, then the inflammation of the lungs appeared to be a consequence, or termination of influenza: in other words, pneumonia succeeded, and became a part of the primary disease. When influenza passed into pneumonia, the child was incapable of sleeping, or making an inspiration, without being suddenly disturbed every few minutes by a fit of coughing, which was preceded by a sense of suffocation,

and a stridulous sound in the voice, similar to the croup. The struggles occasioned by these symptoms produced a paroxysm of fever, of some hours duration: the restlessness and agitation were extremely aggravated; the thirst excessive; the eyes were closed, and the pulse was rapid. In all these variations of this disease, the cough was a severe symptom, and the secretion of fluid into the trachea so copious as to compel the individual to make an effort, once in three or four minutes, to reject it. In general, a disease of this severity had been of many days duration; and dissection proved, that the structure of the lining of the trachea, and even of the pituitary membrane, had undergone a change from inflammation, and that both were firmer and thicker than in their natural state. It also proved, that where these changes existed in the lining of the trachea, the lungs were also, in many instances, highly inflamed, and heavier than usual; and that they presented a structure in several spots, so dense and firm as to oppose considerable difficulty to that free circulation of the blood which is necessary for its purification, and for the purposes of health and life.

Until the middle of March, the above described

disease continued to prevail with great severity; after which, the cases were comparatively few and mild. About this period the weather set in very cold: no rain had then fallen during three or four weeks, and an easterly wind predominated. On the 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, and on all the remaining days of the month, numbers of children were brought into the Dispensary with severe pyrexia, a flushed face, rapid pulse, quick respiration, and a hard dry cough; the latter coming on, and having paroxysms of five or six minutes' duration, every half hour or hour. Here was a disease which denoted the existence of pulmonary inflammation in the first instance: it had no character whatever of influenza, though the symptoms were precisely similar to the secondary symptoms of that disorder. It came on with the well marked diagnostics of idiopathic pneumonia, and without the precursory attendants of catarrh. Neither was the pneumonia of this season confined to infants at the breast; it indiscriminately attacked children from the age of three months to five and six years: in general, the danger was great. Unless the disease abated, on the third or fourth day the symptoms rapidly increased; the respiration became laborious and

difficult: pyrexia was constant and severe; a comatose insensibility alternated with restlessness and great agitation; the eye was fixed, and had acquired a glassy appearance; the face became livid and swollen; the cough, though less violent was frequent; and the child refused, indiscriminately, whatever was put to its mouth.

Of these cases, numbers yielded to copious bleeding by leeches, to brisk purgatives, to blisters applied to the sternum, to antimonials, and diluents: but it was necessary to resort to the most active means in the beginning of the attack; and, unless the bleedings were pushed to such an extent as to produce syncope, the inflammation still went on, and the child died about the tenth or twelfth day. Two small leeches applied to the sternum of a child, of a year old, have been frequently followed by such a discharge of blood as to produce paleness of the countenance, and cold perspirations about the face and neck, which have been succeeded by a diminution of pyrexia, an abatement of cough, and an evident relief in the breathing. Where the loss of blood has been considerable, children have recovered slowly. Still, no remedy was so effectual

—no means afforded such prompt and permanent benefit.

Another description of disease, very common about the end of March, was a species of synocha, accompanied with gastric irritation, and pains indicative of congestion in the brain. Whole families of children, seven and eight in number, were brought into the Dispensary. Some complained of pain in the head and thirst; others complained of pain and tenderness in the præcordial region, and of sickness: all had high pyrexia. Some of the children were comatose; and upon being roused, to give an answer to their parents' questions, said, they had pain in the head. To these, the light seemed to give additional sufferings; the conjunctiva was slightly red, and the pupil dilated, but irritable upon being exposed to the light.

This affection of the head yielded to brisk purgatives, repeatedly administered; to local bleedings in the temples, and to blistering. It appeared to be of little service to give antimonials; but small doses of the submuriate of mercury were given with evident advantage, after

the treatment above mentioned had been first carried into effect.

In those cases in which gastric disease predominated, the tongue was always furred; nausea and vomiting urgent, and the child could not suffer pressure on the præcordial region. The pyrexia was equally high as in those children who suffered from congestion in the brain. In either disease, the Reporter believes the pyrexia, or species of synocha, which prevailed, was merely symptomatic of functional disorder in the stomach, or in the brain. It did not abate till the functions of these organs were restored; and seemed to keep pace with, and to depend upon, the degree of derangement in them. Brisk purgatives, absorbents, saline diaphoretics, and fomentations, proved most efficacious. It was always necessary to keep up a slight intestinal secretion for some days after the first stages of the disease had passed by. As the whole of these affections, variable as they were in their character and appearance, evidently originated in an inflammatory diathesis—in an increased vascular action—evacuants were liberally employed, and generally found to be efficacious.

In the course of February and March, many cases of jaundice occurred in children of three, four and five years of age, who had been very healthy till within a few days before they were brought to the Dispensary, to be treated for this complaint: slight pyrexia accompanied the disease. The skin was dry, of a reddish yellow hue, and the pulse quick. The children had no appetite for their food; the alvine discharge was trifling and difficult, the head painful, and the eye heavy.

The Reporter has frequently observed considerable hepatic derangement in children, from very slight causes. Even when this has not been evident, in the yellow tint of the skin, and the conjunctiva, it has been confirmed by inspecting the fæces, which have generally denoted a want of bile. At this time, the children were uncommonly peevish and irritable, had a morbid colour of the face, a darkness under the eyes, and a frequent inclination to pass their urine. By a long continuance of easterly winds with dry weather, the functions of the liver, in children, were sensibly influenced. Irritation from teething, or from worms, or from acrid substances in the

primæ viæ, was always followed by hepatic derangement. The bile was separated from the blood, but it did not pass into the biliary ducts, or, at least, only in a small portion, another portion having been absorbed and carried into the circulation. In the instances, however, of jaundice, which occurred at this season, it must be admitted, that *one* common cause was to be sought for in explanation of the production of the disease.

During the prevalence of the cold dry atmosphere of the same season, children were promiscuously attacked with inflammation of the lungs, the bowels, and the brain, accompanied with fever of the nature of synocha; others had jaundice with hepatic inflammation; and a great many more were attacked with cynanche parotidæa, and with inflammatory enlargements of the submaxillary glands, Cynanche parotidæa was equally prevalent in the months of winter as in March. During all the cold months, it neither abated of, nor increased in, its severity: the pyrexia was always considerable, and the inflammatory action often continued till the third week.

The cases of cholera morbus were numerous and severe. Dyspeptic symptoms remained for weeks after: and, diarrhœa, without pain, frequently succeeded an attack of cholera morbus; to remove which, astringents, tonics, and a change of air, were requisite. Absorbents availed but little. Hæmatoxylum and Catechu were the most serviceable. Enteritis seldom followed cholera morbus; but the childrens' recovery was greatly retarded by diarrhœa.

One of the most formidable diseases which appeared, was an affection of the brain, of an inflammatory nature, attended with coma, redness of the conjunctiva, synocha, and an oppressed pulse. It was similar to the disease which was noticed, as having been of occasional occurrence, in the winter. The child could scarcely raise its head, was always restless, and started in its sleep; the bowels were torpid, and the urine was high coloured and small in quantity. This disease was idiopathic, and originated, apparently, in direct congestion of the vessels of the brain. It was a modified determination of the inflammatory diathesis, which so evidently characterised every complaint, of an acute description, which was

brought, at this season, into the Dispensary. The nearer the child was the first year of age, the more severe was the attack ; and if dentition happened to be in progress when the infant was assailed with this disease, the symptoms were of the most alarming kind. The Reporter could not discover any difference between this disease and the apoplexia hydrocephalica of Cullen, or acute hydrocephalus : the same kind of pulse existed, similar torpor of the bowels, coma, and dilatation of the pupils. No treatment was so efficacious, in averting the fatal tendency of this complaint, as copious bleeding by leeches, as alvine evacuations by brisk purgatives, and as a free discharge of serum by the application of blisters to the top of the head. Evaporating lotions to the neck and head were also serviceable, but the application of cold to the head had no beneficial effect. The Reporter has always been liberal in prescribing topical bleedings in all acute diseases of the brain, trachea, and lungs, from a conviction that children sustain much better all evacuations of this kind, than those occasioned by the repetition of active purgatives. Neither did children experience such a permanent exhaustion from the loss of blood, as

from copious watery secretions from the bowels. In the next place, it is an important practical fact, that diarrhœa was never so frequent among those children who had been previously bled by leeches, for the removal of any of these inflammatory diseases of the season, as those who had undergone any other mode of treatment on the same account.

At the latter end of March, and the beginning of April, several cases of acute rheumatism were admitted under the Reporter, in children of three, four, five, six, and seven years of age, and upwards. In many of these patients, so strongly marked was the inflammatory diathesis, that not only were the tension and swelling of the joints, with a slight efflorescence in particular spots around, distinctly observed, but even a redness of the conjunctiva; and in some of these children, the tonsils were at the same time inflamed, and the submaxillary glands enlarged and painful. Severe, however, as this disease was, it soon became mild and tractable by topical bleedings, purgatives, and saline diaphoretics.

In other patients, the muscles of the head and

neck were principally the seat of rheumatism: the pyrexia in these cases was slight. This modification of rheumatism was confined to children of eight, ten, and twelve years of age. Blisters and diaphoretics usually carried it off. It was a slight disease; and although the head and temples partook of pain, there was no coma, nor any other symptom which could lead the practitioner to confound it with that organic affection of the encephalon, which has been noticed before.

The cases of angina in this month were few, and such as did appear were mild, and without scarlatina. The reigning glandular disease was cynanche parotidæa. In many instances it was idiopathic, and totally independent of any enlargement of the neighbouring glands, for the salivary gland alone partook of inflammation: but, in other cases, the salivary gland, and the submaxillary gland, of the same side, both inflamed; and not unfrequently a chain of diseased glands extended from the cheek to the sternal extremity of the collar-bone.

In April, no cases of simple continued fever, or synocha, occurred, without the presence of local

pain in the head, chest, or abdomen ; neither did the constitution tend, in the instances of fever with local pain, to intermittent fever. A mild remitting bilious fever, of irregular paroxysms, was seen a few times ; but it was preceded by bilious vomitings and diarrhœa. Hepatic derangement seemed to be the immediate cause of this fever, which abated as soon as the functions of the liver were restored. But not exactly in this fever, as in cholera morbus, did the symptoms subside, did the paroxysms cease, in proportion as the tone of the stomach and bowels was restored, and the irritability removed. When the first impressions upon these organs was overcome, still a fever of irregular type continued ; and in the interval of the paroxysms, the head was painful, the skin dry and of a yellowish tint, the tongue white, the urine high coloured and small in quantity. During five or six days, these symptoms continued. A slight abatement of them took place in the morning ; and a slight exacerbation at the approach of evening. Purgatives, consisting of the submuriate of mercury and rhubarb, of sulphate of magnesia, and the carbonate of magnesia, with saline diaphoretics, were very serviceable. Blisters to the right

hypochondrium contributed to restore the functions of the liver. The sub-carbonate of soda, dissolved in aniseed or mint-water, with a few drops of the tinct. lav. co. was a very useful medicine, given in the interval of the purgatives.

Some of the children, who had been attacked with this fever, had anasarca afterwards. Two died of it.

The first part of this Report shews, that the measles prevailed with great severity in the metropolis, in the middle of the preceding winter. But this disease was also formidable in April and May. A very large proportion of bad cases, in reference to the number of patients admitted with the measles, was brought into the Dispensary the latter end of March, and in April, and in May. When the weather continued dry and fine, the measles were milder; but when it became warm and moist, there was an evident aggravation in the character of the disorder. Independently of the measles having attacked, in this last state of the weather, with the usual diagnostic symptoms of pyrexia, hard cough, a red watery eye with swollen lids, vomiting, coma, &c.

which, in the ordinary course of this complaint, abate on the third or fourth day, a secondary affection succeeded the primary attack, with symptoms of the most urgent nature. These were a severe cough with difficult and laborious breathing, intense pyrexia, shooting pains in the track of the small intestines, delirium, frequent inclination to vomit, a swollen and purple appearance of the face, excessive restlessness, and in some instances diarrhœa. Hoarseness usually prevailed throughout the stages of this secondary disease. The expectoration was trifling, but now and then intermixed with blood. The irritation along the trachea was extremely distressing; thirst incessant, and the tongue covered with sordes. The constitution of the child now sustained more extensive ravages than it had done from the immediate effects of the specific contagion which it had previously imbibed. It was not now a disease that exhausted all its action upon the pulmonary organ and the membrane of the trachea, but a secondary affection, that excited inflammatory pains in the bowels, irritation in the stomach, congestion in the lungs and brain; a disease that diffused a high inflammatory action over the whole system, more violent

in its character than the primary disease, and more fatal in its effects. If the child recovered from an attack of this kind, extreme debility succeeded; and it was extenuated and hectic for many weeks. If the child died, it was comatose for three or four days before its death. Nothing roused it but the frequency and violence of the cough; the breathing was extremely difficult; diarrhœa and convulsions concluded the scene.

The Reporter is of opinion, that this secondary affection has frequently had its source in an inefficient treatment of the primary disease; in premature exposure to the weather; and in the too early administration of nutritious food. The extent of the eruption on the surface of the body was no criterion of the severity of the primary disease; neither was its duration there critical with respect to its solution. A slight eruption has been often preceded by severe symptoms, and succeeded by an intractable secondary affection; whilst a copious eruption has often appeared with very mild precursory symptoms, and yet been followed by a secondary attack of great violence. Nay, although the eruption has been very profuse, the child has frequently recovered

without difficulty or relapse. In all the cases which came under the Reporter's notice, he does not remember to have seen one with the putrid diathesis described by authors. Petechiæ, it is true, have appeared; but they were neither of a livid or black colour, but literally red, and indicative of the highly inflammatory, and not of the putrid diathesis. In the first stages of a very severe kind of measles, little red spots, which have radiated as a star from a minute speck, the result of extravasation, have been observed. In the progress also of the disease, in the secondary stage, whilst the patient has been distressed with inflammatory pains in the intestines, with acute pains in the head from congestion, petechiæ of a similar kind have broken out upon the breast, arms, and legs. They never occurred but in cases of extreme severity, and did not indicate the existence of a putrid diathesis. After having had recourse to evacuations, particularly by bleeding and blistering, they disappeared under the use of diaphoretics; and where such evacuations had been adopted in the beginning of the disease, to a sufficient extent, the Reporter does not recollect ever to have seen any petechiæ; hence it may be concluded, that the appearance

of these spots was an infallible indication, among some others, of the existence of a very strong inflammatory diathesis.

Erysipelas and urticaria were very frequent towards the end of March. The former was a severe disease, and attended with synocha. Two or three days before the eruption came out, the children had a fever of the description of synocha, with pain in the head and vomiting. The eruption spread itself principally on the neck, body, and extremities. The vesicles were large, with extensive efflorescence, and a thickening of the cellular membrane around. Small doses of sulphate of magnesia with antimonial wine, and saline diaphoretics, usually carried off the disease, after the previous exhibition of one or two active purgatives with submuriate of mercury and scammony. A slight opiate at night was also serviceable.

Some cases of a peculiar eruption, consisting of small pustules in clusters, with considerable efflorescence around each group, were brought into the Dispensary the beginning of April. The group was of varied form, sometimes oval,

then round, and in other instances resembled in shape a truncated square. The pustules were distinct in several cases, and confluent in others.

This eruption attacked some children, whilst urticaria and erysipelas made their appearance in other children. The back, the neck, the arms, the legs, and body, were promiscuously the seat of the first kind of eruptive disorder. One child had two large groups upon the neck, which appeared soon after an enlargement of the glands of the same side, from cold. The pyrexia which accompanied the eruption was slight; the functions were but little disturbed, and the stomach was free from irritation.

During the prevalence of the cold dry weather, in the beginning of April, many patients were admitted with pneumonia, and many also with a harsh sonorous cough, and stridulous respiration with pyrexia, resembling a slighter kind of croup. The cases of pneumonia were all strikingly marked. They were not preceded by catarrhal symptoms, nor by the croupy cough with which many children were attacked. A short laborious breathing, a hard violent cough, high pyrexia,

flushed countenance, a rapid pulse, came on at the beginning, and continued eight or ten days, about which time the disease began to subside, or symptoms threatening suffocation supervened. The treatment here, as in other acute disorders which attacked the chest, consisted in the early adoption of bleeding by leeches, of blistering, and in the use of purgatives and diaphoretics.

Three cases of genuine croup occurred in children at the breast. The symptoms were all severe, but yielded in a few hours to bleeding by leeches, ad deliquium, to blisters, evaporating lotions applied to the neck and throat, nauseating doses of a solution of tartarized antimony, and to a brisk dose of the submuriate of mercury and jalap. The Reporter found it useful to excite occasional vomiting in croup, by tickling the fauces with a feather, or the end of the finger. Unless the child was frequently urged by these means to make an effort to throw up the mucus, which forms, in such large quantities, in cases of this kind, in the trachea and the bronchial tubes, a suffocative irritation and cough increased rapidly, and the danger of effusion was every hour to be apprehended.

Hepatic diseases were among the list of casualties of the season. Jaundice, with slight pyrexia, head-ache and diarrhœa, appeared in children, who had been admitted into the Dispensary with other complaints; and many fresh patients were also brought in, suffering with a similar disease. But jaundice was not always the first symptom of hepatic derangement. Even whilst under the influence of diarrhœa, some children were still evidently suffering from the disturbed state of the functions of the liver, though the skin was free from yellowness. Jaundice supervened in such, as a secondary symptom. Congestion in the liver is, probably, a frequent cause of illness in children. To this, during the infant state, that organ is naturally disposed only from its bulk, compared with the bulk of other organs. One reason, very likely, of the relief which children experience from copious alvine discharges, in many states of disease, is the sympathetic action which is communicated in this effort, from the intestines to the hepatic system, during the existence of such irritation, and a corresponding effect in an organ surcharged with blood, and in which the circulation is languid and incomplete!

The Reporter noticed in the months of April and May, some affections of the head in children of ten and twelve years of age, which resembled phrenitis. The symptoms were violent pyrexia, pain in the head with delirium, a rapid pulse, great agitation, inability to bear the light, redness of the conjunctiva, excessive thirst, suppression of the urine, spasmodic affections of the arms and legs, vomiting, and in general, constipation of the bowels. The disease was idiopathic, and denoted the presence of inflammation in the coverings of the brain. General bleedings, blisters to the head, and brisk purgatives succeeded in three instances of the disease. One case ended fatally, preceded by symptoms of effusion on the brain.

So late even as the end of May, the measles and the hooping-cough still formed a prominent feature in the diseases of this season. The hooping-cough promiscuously appeared as a primary disease; and if not as the sequel, at least, as an early successor of the measles. The most effectual treatment at the beginning of the hooping-cough, consisted in a lowering regimen, in preserving the bowels open with the submuriate

of mercury and rhubarb, in administering slight diaphoretics combined with conium and ipecacuanha, and in employing leeches and blisters to the sternum. During the advanced stages of it, expectorants and opiates proved highly serviceable.

The throat was a frequent seat of disease in May and June. Cynanche tonsillaris was of general—cynanche maligna, of rare occurrence. Slight pyrexia accompanied an apthous appearance of the fauces, and constituted a specific disorder. The Reporter remembers to have seen the inside of the cheeks, and the whole of the fauces covered with apthous ulcerations; but, in these cases, the tonsils were neither tender nor enlarged, and deglutition was performed without the least difficulty. In many children, of eight or ten years of age, an eruption, resembling the red gum of infants, broke out upon the hands, breasts, and wrists, and was generally attended with an enlargement of the glands of the neck. There was always pyrexia, which continued for four or five days, when the eruption became pale, and then dried up, leaving the child under a chronic inflammation of one or two

glands, which not unfrequently ended in suppuration.

Frequent as Cynanche Parotidea has been through the whole of the year, no instance of metastasis, came under the Reporter's notice, among children. Two cases of acute inflammation of the testis, occurred in two plethoric healthy young men, in the Reporter's practice; and what is rather remarkable, the patients were brothers, one of whom was first attacked with cynanche parotidea, and then subsequent inflammation of the testis, a fortnight from the commencement of cynanche parotidea, of which the patient recovered after three weeks confinement. The brothers lived and slept together. Three weeks after the recovery of the first, the second brother was attacked with cynanche parotidea, in the same manner as the first. In a few days, the glandular inflammation began to subside, but before it had disappeared from the cheek, inflammation attacked the testis, and confined him also three weeks, to the house, as it had done his brother. Each had severe pyrexia, and required topical and general bleedings, and brisk

purgatives. Neither recovered of this secondary affection for many weeks.

In May and June, numbers of children, from five to ten years of age, were brought into the Dispensary, labouring under high pyrexia and pungent pain in the side, with cough, and shortness of breathing. Some were admitted, with head-ache, pyrexia, vomiting, tension and uneasiness of the abdomen. Others had cholera morbus, or enteritis. Others again, came with a slight remitting bilious fever, which was attended with a copious vomiting of bile, nausea, a furred tongue streaked with yellow sordes; considerable irritation, and drowsiness. The face was generally flushed, the skin of a yellow tint, and very hot. Towards evening, the exacerbation of the disease was remarkable; and the bowels throughout every stage of the fever, were torpid. In the few instances of this disorder, in which diarrhœa took place, the symptoms were mild. If it occurred in the progress of the fever, or towards its termination, it was critical. In the beginning of the fever, diarrhœa seemed to moderate the symptoms, and to shorten their duration. The *primæ viæ* undoubtedly sustained

considerable irritation, even from the commencement of this fever; but the liver was the organ from whence the disease might be said to proceed. The secretions of this organ were totally changed; the bile was thin and acrid, and in excess. The tension of the right hypochondrium indicated congestion; and the yellowness of the skin was an evidence that the bile did not all pass through its natural ducts, and that obstruction existed in the extreme vessels. The most successful treatment was that which excited the liver to new actions; to the discharge of all viscid and unhealthy bile; to a free circulation; and to the secretion of a natural fluid. Saline and mercurial purgatives, and blisters to the right hypochondrium accomplished these objects best. Absorbents fulfilled the second intention of correcting the acrimony of the fluids in the *primæ viæ*, and of allaying irritation in them. Diluents without any admixture of stimuli, were very useful.

In a variety of cases, the functions of the liver became suspended from other causes; and from none, oftener, than from a dyspeptic, languid state of the stomach, which was generally brought on

by the administration of improper food, and food in excess. Before, however, the liver evidently ceased to secrete bile of a proper quality, and in sufficient quantity, there were many slight symptoms of indisposition to be detected in the children, such as paroxysms of fever, which came on and went off, at irregular periods, without any sensible crisis ; heat and dryness in the palms of the hands and soles of the feet ; a fulness in the epigastric region ; a peevishness of temper ; lassitude ; softness of the skin ; and an inclination to eat at all hours. After a duration of these symptoms for several days, (symptoms scarcely paid any attention to even by parents) the fæces changed their colour, and became very offensive ; and unless the state of the digestive organs was then improved, a diarrhœa succeeded, in which the stools were voided with force, suddenly, and with an admixture only of thin yellowish bile. If, in the first instance, this diarrhœa was observed to relieve some of the symptoms just described, it brought on others which were more urgent and distressing than those it had abated. Except during the period of dentition, this discharge was rarely critical. High pyrexia and irritation never failed to accompany diarrhœa

after it had continued three or four days. By the early administration of aperient medicines, diarrhœa was frequently averted; and its removal, after it had once been established, promoted by the occasional interposition of doses of rhubarb and submuriate of mercury, for absorbents alone seldom sufficed to stop diarrhœa. It required catechu and hæmatoxylum; the latter of which was by far the most efficacious medicine. A very material object to keep in view, both for the preservation of childrens' health, as well as for its restoration from disorders of the digestive organs, was the correction of the secretions of the liver, which were invariably vitiated, defective, or in excess, during the months of summer. One of the most frequent diseases, from this cause, was diarrhœa, which, however, rarely occurred after the epoch of dentition, in such children as had been purged from time to time, and to whom slight tonics, combined with aperients, had been exhibited. But it was still evident that the liver was, in a variety of cases, the seat of secondary disease. The digestive organs, in a disordered state, communicate a morbid irritation to the liver—an action which was productive of the same results as if this organ had been pri-

marily affected. The Reporter invariably noticed this, in those children who had large bellies, whose skins were soft and pale, and whose joints had a ricketty appearance. When the functions of the liver were so materially disturbed, as to be evident upon a slight inspection of the child's health, irregular paroxysms of fever attended which had the effect, at each return, of heightening the tendency to hepatic obstruction. The first step to a cure in all these cases, was to restrict the child in its food; to suffer only such a quantity to be given, as could be easily digested; and food of such a quality, as neither excited irritation, nor afforded too great a quantity of nutritive substance. A second means consisted in the employment of gentle aperients and tonics; and when the habit had been thus altered, in the removal to a good salubrious air. By this plan, the digestive organs acquired energy, the functions of the liver were restored, and the child became healthy. Under other circumstances of irritation in the *primæ viæ*, eruptions of a mixed and varied nature broke out upon the legs, arms, body, and face, and not unfrequently upon the scalp. Slight pyrexia occasionally ac-

accompanied these eruptions, but more commonly the health was good and free from general disturbance. The tongue was rather white and furred; but the fæces were tinged with bile of a healthy colour.

Such was the state of the children, who were brought to the Dispensary in the early stages of irritation of the digestive organs, in which the surface had participated. If no assistance was given at this period, the children afterwards became dyspeptic, and had diarrhœa; and from having been plump, and robust, became weak, feeble, and emaciated. An irregular excitability existed in the bowels of such patients; a portion of the intestines acted freely in them, and discharged in copious quantities, a watery fluid: whilst, another portion remained indolent, and inclosed in the plicæ fæculent substances, which were productive of constant irritation, and proved a source of successive paroxysms of fever, and successive attacks of diarrhœa. In all these instances, drastic purges did harm. They exhausted the patient, without removing the disease. By promoting a slight action, on the contrary, in the bowels, for a fortnight or longer, the removal

of these substances was accomplished, and the bowels restored in all their parts to their proper functions. Slight tonics, and preparations of sulphur with soda, were also particularly useful.

Another consequence of neglected disease of the digestive organs, was mesenteric obstruction, which progressively came on after a long continuance of the before mentioned symptoms. Thus was an incurable atrophy finally established.

During the months of June and July, a great many cases of cholera morbus, enteritis, and fever of a remitting nature, with yellowness of the skin and conjunctiva, were brought into the Dispensary. Diarrhœa, scarlatina, whooping-cough, and measles were also met with. Scarlatina was extremely mild. But the most severe disease of the summer months, was an inflammatory affection of the brain with synocha, which indiscriminately attacked children of all ages, to the tenth or twelfth year. A vast many cases of this kind were brought in during the continuance of the hot days in June. Chronic and acute hydrocephalus have been frequently seen

Highly ricketty children, and others, those whose digestive organs had been much impaired, and debilitated, were attacked with convulsions; which, at one time, appeared to originate in pressure on the brain from water, and at another time to be primary, and terminate by producing such a result. A number of these patients entirely recovered by the use of purgatives, tonics, and the volatile alkali. Towards the latter end of July, a few children at the breast were presented at the Dispensary with pneumonia, which had been preceded by catarrhal symptoms.

It is as interesting as it is important, to notice the material difference that exists in the character of diseases in children, at various seasons of the year, and even in the same constitutions, at the different epochs of childhood. The Reporter has observed some of the very same children, who have in the last few months been attacked with a kind of bilious remitting fever, in former seasons experience repeated attacks of synocha, to which they now seem no longer subject. Neither has it occurred to the Reporter to meet with those cases of cynanche maligna in this class of patients, which he remembers to have seen in

former years. Those which have fallen under his observation have been few, and comparatively mild. The general character of fever, not only in children, but also in adults, has certainly experienced an essential alteration. Within a few years, diseases, on the contrary, of the intellectual functions, have become more severe, and more frequent.

*List of Cases admitted under the care of the Physicians of the Universal Dispensary for Children, St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors' Commons, London; from July the 31st, 1817, to the 31st of October following.*

DISEASES.	Number of Cases in each Month.			
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Total.
Febris - - - - -	7	2	5	14
—— Remittens - - -	8	7	8	23
—— Tertianæ - - -	1	—	1	2
Febricula - - - - -	6	3	1	10
Pneumonia - - - - -	2	2	6	10
Dysenteria - - - - -	6	4	2	12
Diarrhœa - - - - -	12	10	4	26
Cholera Morbus - - -	8	10	3	21
Morbilli - - - - -	8	4	6	18
Pertussis - - - - -	9	4	7	20
Erysipelas - - - - -	7	16	3	26
Tormina - - - - -	3	1	2	6
Phrenitis - - - - -	—	4	6	10
Convulsiones - - - -	5	3	2	10
Pemphigus - - - - -	1	—	1	2
Icterus - - - - -	4	5	3	12
Tabes Mesenterica - -	6	2	4	12
Roseola - - - - -	2	1	3	6
Tussis - - - - -	3	1	2	6
Tussis cum Febre - -	2	3	1	6
Dyspnœa - - - - -	2	1	—	3
Febris Catarrhalis - -	3	1	5	9
Pleurodynia - - - - -	2	—	—	2
Hæmoptoe - - - - -	2	1	2	5
Eruptiones Variæ - -	6	3	1	10
Erythema - - - - -	4	2	5	11
Cynanche Parotidæa -	4	1	1	6
—— Tonsillaris - -	4	2	4	10
—— Trachealis - -	1	2	2	5
Epilepsia - - - - -	2	—	—	2
Scorbutus - - - - -	2	2	1	5
Vomitones - - - - -	3	4	2	9
Varicella - - - - -	1	—	2	3
Carried over	136	101	95	332

DISEASES.	Number of Cases in each Month.			
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Total.
Brought over	136	101	95	332
Rachitis - - - - -	3	2	4	9
Dyspepsia - - - - -	10	16	2	28
Hemiplegia - - - - -	2	—	—	2
Paraplegia - - - - -	1	—	—	1
Atrophia - - - - -	3	1	2	6
Epistaxis - - - - -	1	1	—	2
Hydrocephalus Chron. -	5	3	2	10
Acutus -	3	1	3	7
Scarlatina - - - - -	1	2	4	7
Chorea Sancti Viti - -	5	2	—	7
Vermes Ascarides - -	4	2	1	7
Lumbrici - -	2	1	1	4
Tænia - - -	2	—	—	2
Hæmatemesis - - - -	1	2	—	3
Urticaria - - - - -	5	3	2	10
Psoriasis - - - - -	2	—	—	2
Lepra - - - - -	1	—	—	1
Morbus Lienis - - - -	1	—	—	1
Surgical Cases - - - -	—	—	—	60
Totals	188	137	116	501

Total number of admissions from the opening of the  
Dispensary, June 24, 1816, to Oct. 31, 1817 - - 2497

Total cured - - - - - 1799

Total died - - - - - 46

Total inoculated for Cow-pox - - - - - 91

Upon the books, and under cure - - - - - 561

2497

Total number of Patients admitted under the Physician 2115

Ditto under the Surgeons - - - - - 382

2497

Erysipelas was a prevalent disorder in the month of August; it principally attacked the head, face, and eyelids. In several children at the breast, an erysipelatous tumour appeared, indiscriminately, first on one part of the scalp, and then on another; from whence it extended to the forehead, then to the eye-lids and the face. The cases of erysipelas which occurred this month were numerous, and also more distinctly marked than the Reporter ever recollects to have seen.

Mumps, cholera morbus, and an inflammatory affection, similar to the inflammatory affection of the brain, in the preceding months, were frequent diseases in August. Several cases of hydrocephalus chronicus, connected with rickets and extreme debility of the digestive organs, which had been of some standing in the Dispensary, gave way to tonics, consisting of tartarized iron and columba, and the weekly interposition of purgatives of scammony and the submuriate of mercury. The health of the children labouring under this disorder, has thus greatly improved. From having had repeated attacks of convulsions, and from having been comatose with strabismus,

four children out of eight, are now, at the expiration of two months from their first admission into the Dispensary, perfectly free from any convulsive tendency and coma, and are, in all respects, steadily advancing to recovery. The other four promise also to do well by a similar treatment. Two of this number have had a return of strabismus and coma, but they have been lately attacked with diarrhœa, which appears to have carried off the former symptoms.

In the month of August, September, and October, a great many cases of fever occurred, of a bilious remitting nature at their commencement. The symptoms were high pyrexia; a furred tongue with a yellow streak in the middle; vomiting; yellowness of the skin, and tunica conjunctiva; pain in the head; quick respiration; oppression and pain at the præcordia; a rapid pulse; scanty urine of a reddish colour. For three or four days, all these symptoms continued, but abated and increased repeatedly in the course of twenty-four hours: then, the patient passed gradually from this into another state, the fever changing from its first character, to fever of a typhoid nature. The tongue be-

came hard, brown, and dry ; the lips and teeth were covered with a brown crust ; pyrexia increased ; the pulse was more rapid ; and the eye glassy. In this stage of the complaint there was delirium, with considerable pain in the head ; and at times a green or yellowish fluid was vomited up. The children in whom this modification of fever appeared, were between seven and twelve years of age. In all respects, their situation was now similar to that of adults who were at first attacked with typhus. The fever ran on for fourteen days, and sometimes longer, before it showed any tendency to imperfect crisis—imperfect, because the solution of it did not take place by sensible diaphoresis, by evacuations from the bowels, or by epistaxis. In an almost imperceptible manner, pyrexia abated, and then the tongue grew cleaner, whiter on the edges, became covered with a healthy moisture, and was soft and smooth to the finger. If a gentle action had been excited in the bowels, throughout all the stages of the fever, this was the change at the end of fourteen or fifteen days from its attack. Next, from a state of general restlessness, which alternated with a comatose doze and delirium, the child passed into a composed and

placed state, and slept comfortably. When awake it sighed frequently, was dejected, and fretful. Even though there was this remission of symptoms in the morning, or for a few hours during the middle of the day, yet, in the evening, a severe exacerbation usually came on; the face was flushed; the skin dry and parched, and the head painful. Nor was it uncommon for a child who experienced two or three such severe exacerbations to be attacked with diarrhœa, which far from terminating the fever, in the way of critical solution, generally protracted the disease, and proved in itself obstinate of removal.

This autumnal fever among children, in every instance, appeared to depend upon some peculiar irritation in the stomach, intestines, and liver. If the secretions of the bowels were vitiated, excessive, or deficient, it was perfectly obvious, that all the symptoms of the fever were then more severe. The presence of fæculent matter in the intestines was an invariable cause of aggravation. In this case, an irritative and disordered state of the viscera not only remained, but absolutely gave a character to the disease, which made it doubtful to the Reporter whether

it had not first its origin in some impediment to the performance of the functions of the stomach and intestines, from this cause. Of this he is at least certain, that if the fever had not its source here, he means in a morbid irritative state of the *primæ viæ*, that whatever created irritation in in them, always gave a new and worse complexion to it. This was proved beyond a doubt, in the success of any treatment, more particularly directed to these viscera. If the irritative action which had been supported, if not produced, by the presence of *fæculent* substances in the alimentary canal, had not been moderated or subdued in the beginning of the fever, by the repeated administration of aperients, the fever then ran out to a greater length, and sooner partook of the nature of typhus. Not until the secretions of the stomach, liver, and intestines became natural, did pyrexia and other symptoms abate. These appeared to hang upon the greater or less degree of derangement in the functions of these viscera. The healthy change in the secretions could not be the result of diminution of fever: for this continued so long as the secretions were disordered, but abated when the irritation of the chylopoietic viscera subsided, and when they re-

sumed their healthy functions, and secreted fluids. In the interval, free from the exhibition of cathartics, which consisted of pulv. jalapæ, or pul. rhei and the submuriate of mercury, diaphoretics, with the liquor antimonii tartarizat. et liquor ammon. acetat. were serviceable; but the effect of these was unavailing, or of temporary duration, unless the aperient was frequently repeated. One of the most efficacious remedies, was a solution of sulphate of magnesia and tartarized antimony, in such doses as promoted a regular discharge from the bowels, and a slight diaphoresis. Even when the fever had taken the typhoid character, the same remedy, with a free use of diluents, exposure to cool air, and a daily change from one room to another, even from the bed to the street, were of infinite service. No child died of this fever, under such treatment, severe as were the symptoms, in many instances, and modified as the fever was with acute pains in the head and side, tension and tenderness of the abdomen, vomiting, and diarrhœa.

A fever precisely like the fever of this season, has not fallen under the Reporter's notice before,

among children. It was evidently the same fever as the prevalent fever of the autumn, which has attacked so many adults in every district of the metropolis. It is no subject of surprise with him, that typhus has reigned so extensively this autumn; but its infrequency of late years is, in the Reporter's mind, both a singular and an important fact. Except in a few solitary instances, he has scarcely met with typhus for three or four years, among a numerous class of poor, in the extended districts of the London Dispensary, and in a large eastern and a southern district of the metropolis: on the contrary, he has seen, within a few weeks, in the districts of the Surry and London Dispensaries, not less than sixty cases of typhus. Only in two or three patients has this fever ended fatally; though the reigning disease of the autumn, both among children and adults, is evidently a typhus milder which has fallen under the Reporter's notice. Its common duration has been three weeks.

Cholera morbus and diarrhœa, with enteritis, made a formidable figure in the list of diseases of the autumn. They attacked children indiscrimi-

nately, from one year old to ten and twelve ; and the younger the child the more severe were these diseases. In cholera morbus, the stools were always preceded by acute pains in the intestines, and convulsive motions of the arms and legs ; and after a few days continuance of this disease, a mucous discharge, intermixed with blood, escaped from the bowels. The whole of the time, pyrexia was high, the abdomen tense and very tender. Diarrhœa, accompanied with enteritis, was very prevalent during August and September. The cases of measles in these months were numerous, but evidently milder than those recorded in the spring and winter months. When the whooping-cough followed soon after the measles, as it did in several instances in this season, it did not prove more violent, or more difficult of treatment, than in those children who had not been previously attacked with measles. Throughout the months of August, September, and October, the general character of acute diseases among children was severe. The head and the bowels were the usual seat of inflammation. When it attacked the latter, cholera morbus and diarrhœa were frequently combined with it ; water in the head, when it attacked the former. In almost every

acute disease, in which pyrexia was very high, and unconnected with any local inflammation of the bowels, the head always appeared to be extensively affected. Congestion in the brain might be traced, as the root whence other symptoms arose. The deep flush upon the countenance; the glassy appearance of the eye; the inability to hold up the head; the pain experienced upon exposing the eye to a strong light, and coma, plainly implied turgescence in the vessels of the brain.

Scarlatina appeared in three children only. Several were brought into the Dispensary in August and September with cynanche tonsillaris, accompanied with slight pyrexia. Erysipelas, urticaria, and roseola, as well as a variety of anomalous eruptions, which were preceded by pyrexia, were very frequent. In one instance, varicella, attacked with vomiting and high pyrexia of three days duration.

Independently of several cases of symptomatic chorea sancti viti, from worms, many idiopathic cases of this disease occurred. In a girl of eleven years of age, there was always fever with

this disease ; the tongue was sordid, and an irritative action prevailed in the stomach and bowels, which sometimes occasioned vomiting, at others diarrhœa. Another case, the worst the Reporter ever saw, was that of a girl thirteen years old. This child had no controul whatever over her limbs ; her arms and legs were in perpetual motion ; she could not support the body erect ; the muscles of her face were hideously disturbed. Sitting or lying, she was in continual motion. At night, a paroxysm of fever always came on ; during which her gesticulations were convulsive. She had been in this state several weeks before she was admitted a patient into the Dispensary : she was tall and emaciated, and had consumptive symptoms. Brisk purging once in five or six days, with submuriate of mercury and scammony, proved particularly serviceable. An abatement of the more violent motions of the arms and legs always succeeded copious evacuations from the bowels.

The following nights were more tranquil, and the pyrexia less. Diaphoretics and purgatives were exhibited for three weeks. After that time, she took the volatile tincture of valerian,

the carbonate of iron and columba, with evident advantage. At the end of two months she had entirely recovered from the disease. It is important to add, that the efficacy of tonics in this, and in other instances of chorea sancti viti, was greatly promoted by the occasional interposition of an active purgative. Exposure to the open air, several hours daily, assisted in the recovery of this description of patients.

About the beginning of October, many children were brought to the Reporter with pain in the head, constipated bowels, and continued pyrexia. In all of them, the actions of the arterial system were highly excited; the pulse was full, strong, and rapid; the breathing quick; the tongue white. In some of these children, who were commonly between four and ten years of age, epistaxis occurred, and was always salutary. It lowered the actions of the system, relieved the head-ach, abated pyrexia, and was a natural cure of the disease. The Reporter had no occasion to resort to general bleeding for the removal of this description of fever; but the probability is, that it might have proved a safe and efficacious remedy. This fever, it must be re-

membered, had nothing of the bilious or typhoid character ; it partook more of synocha.

During the month of October, a vast number of children, from five to twelve years of age, were attacked with diarrhœa ; some with dysentery. It was difficult to say whether many of the cases were distinctly the former or the latter disease. They appeared to be of a mixed character : one part of the intestines was inert, and its plicæ filled with scybala, which were discharged with mucus and blood ; whilst another portion, which acted with increased irritability, secreted a large quantity of watery fluid mixed with bile. Purging with castor oil every morning, or with small doses of sulphate of magnesia, and an anodyne at night, succeeded in rendering the action of the bowels more uniform and regular. Submuriate of mercury, and small doses of opium, given every night at bed-time, were extremely useful. Flannel rollers round the body did essential good, both by maintaining uniform warmth, and by affording support to the abdominal viscera. Some of the cases of diarrhœa were followed by ascites.

Till the latter end of September and the begin-

ning of October, inflammatory complaints of the chest were mild and few; but when the cold easterly winds of the season set in, then catarrhal affections and pneumonia were both equally frequent and severe. In very young children, pneumonia declared itself in the most formidable manner. Cough and pyrexia were urgent, the face œdematous, and the difficulty of breathing suddenly great. Unless copious bleedings were resorted to immediately on the attack, blisters, and two or three active purgatives, the disease proved fatal in a few days. Catarrhal affections were accompanied with high pyrexia: in them the secretion of fluid in the trachea and the pituitary membrane was so copious, as, in some instances, to create alarming irritation, and to threaten sudden suffocation. No cases of complete croup occurred within the period of this Report; but many children had a hard cough with sonorous breathing, and pyrexia. One child was opened (not a patient of the Dispensary), who died of suffocation, preceded by these symptoms, shortly after having had the measles. Mr. Benjamin Davis, of the Surry Dispensary, conducted the dissection, and has reported, that the inferior lobes of the right and left lung were in-

flamed; that the tracheal membrane was also inflamed throughout its whole extent, but more particularly at its bifurcations. In the bronchiæ there was pus. The heart and pericardium, as well as the abdominal viscera, were healthy. The vessels of the pia mater were distended, and shewed an appearance of inflammation.

Most of the cases of measles had a mild character; and, except in those where purging had not been freely promoted in the beginning of the disease, they were seldom succeeded by diarrhœa. The instances of jaundice were few: the cases of slight hepatic derangement very numerous. But by far the largest proportion of chronic disorders consisted in a dyspeptic state of the stomach, in mesenteric obstruction, rickets, hectic fever, and general debility of the chylo-poietic viscera. In some of these children, the scrophulous diathesis strongly predominated; but in others, a morbid habit of body appeared to have been contracted from a languid and dyspeptic state of the digestive organs. Among children of the latter description, hydrocephalus chronicus was as common as among those of a scrophulous habit. It was often removed, and

often returned ; absorption and effusion of water alternately taking place, as the general state of the system varied. In a boy of eight years of age, an epileptic fit came on, twice or thrice in every twenty-four hours, during a whole year. He still is dull, heavy, and indifferent to those about him : his sight is imperfect, and he is incapable of walking without assistance ; appearances denote him to be scrophulous ; his abdomen is distended and hard. He has constant pyrexia ; and, for several weeks, has been almost in a senseless state. Epilepsy in him appears to be the result of effusion into the ventricles. The more marked the symptoms are of effusion, the more violent may the next return of the fit be expected. When the attack passes by, he is revived, as if in the struggle the effused fluid had been absorbed. The Reporter is convinced, that water has been repeatedly effused and absorbed in this boy's case. At present the fits are much milder, and recur only twice or thrice in the week. This the Reporter attributes to the steel and volatile alkali which the child has now taken for three weeks.

Two infants, a year old each, have been ad-

mitted into the Dispensary, completely paralyzed in the lower extremities, from a cause which cannot be discovered. The children are plump, and otherwise healthy, without the slightest indication of any disorder of the spine; neither have they met with any injury. Blisters have been applied to the lumbar vertebræ without any good effect. Three cases of hæmatemesis have occurred within a few weeks, in children of ten years old. One of the children, a delicate girl, has had several returns of this hæmorrhage. For three or four days before she vomits blood, she experiences great pain and tension in the epigastric region, and severe head-ach. Ol. Ricini and small doses of opium have been very beneficial: other medicines have been rejected. By giving ol. ricini every morning, and the eighth of a grain of opium once in six hours, and changing the air, the child has entirely recovered. Erythema with considerable pyrexia, and pyrexia with numerous eruptions of an anomalous kind, have been met with in a great many instances. Several obstinate cases of psoriasis have also been admitted.

From the preceding Report it will appear, that,

during the three last months, the general character of disease among children has been severe. A bilious remitting fever, which degenerated into typhus, has been very prevalent. Affections of the head and chest, cholera morbus, diarrhœa, and dysentery, have also been very frequent and very severe. The season, upon the whole, has been extremely sickly.

Mr. Benjamin Davis, of the Surry Dispensary, has reported to me a case of fungus hæmatodes, which fell under his observation, in a child of five years of age. The testis, he states, was extremely diseased; it measured three inches and a half in length, and five in circumference; its shape was pyriform. When the tumour increased, a cough came on, and the child died hectic. Upon opening the body, a tumour was discovered, of the size of a goose's egg, in the superior lobe of the right lung, exactly resembling the tumour of the testis. He suggests whether the disease of the lungs could have been communicated by absorption? He thinks, and with great probability, that both tumours were formed by a similar morbid action; and that the extirpation of the testicular tumour would have been of no service.

*Report of Cases admitted under the Care of the Physicians, from  
October 31, 1817, to December 31, 1817.*

Febris - - - - -	19	Cynanche Parotidæa - -	1
—— Remittens - - -	10	—— Tonsillaris - -	2
—— Tertianæ - - -	3	—— Trachealis - -	9
Febriçula - - - - -	12	Epilepsia - - - - -	2
Pneumonia - - - - -	11	Scarlatina - - - - -	5
Dysenteria - - - - -	10	Varicella - - - - -	2
Diarrhœa Crapulosa - -	12	Rachitis - - - - -	9
—— Mucosa - - -	14	Hydroceph. acutus - -	7
—— Sanguinea - - -	11	—— chronic - -	8
Cholera Morbus - - -	3	Paralysis - - - - -	2
Morbilli - - - - -	24	Epistaxis - - - - -	1
Pertussis - - - - -	42	Chorea Sancti Viti - -	2
Erysipelas - - - - -	5	Vermes Ascarides - -	9
Tormina - - - - -	8	—— Lumbrici - - -	3
Phrenitis - - - - -	12	—— Tænia - - - - -	2
Convulsiones - - - - -	10	Crustea Lactea - - -	2
Tussis - - - - -	18	Dyspepsia - - - - -	14
Icterus - - - - -	12	Urticaria - - - - -	4
Tabes Mesent - - - - -	8	Psoriasis - - - - -	2
Roseola - - - - -	2	Enteritis - - - - -	8
Dispnoea - - - - -	4	Aphthæ - - - - -	5
Catarrhus - - - - -	12		
Erythema - - - - -	12		383
Eruptiones variæ - - -	10		

The records of the prevailing diseases of the children admitted into the *Universal Dispensary for Children* during the last year, contained in the *Medico-Chirurgical Journal*, shew that influenza in 1817 was a very predominant, and

likewise a very fatal malady. In the months of October, November, and December of 1817, this disease on the contrary has scarcely been seen. Catarrhal affections have appeared in the ordinary form at this season, but they seldom were severe, and still less frequently did they end in pneumonia. Synocha has been very prevalent among children of three, four and five years of age and upwards. The head has invariably been affected with considerable pain, the eye heavy, the pupil dilated. In some of these cases the eye was extremely bright, and the conjunctiva red; in the latter the pyrexia was more intense. During the months of October, November and December synocha has been the reigning fever; synochus and the bilious remitting fever of the autumn having rarely appeared. Genuine pneumonia was of frequent occurrence. The children who died of it had extensive adhesion of the lungs to the pleura, and in some of the dissections, pus was found between the pleura and the lungs. Measles have in general been mild, but whooping-cough severe. The latter was in many instances conjoined with pneumonia; and effusions into the bronchiæ by no means rare. Eruptive fevers

have been few and mild; the croup has occurred with severity in three or four children. Hydrocephalus acutus and chronicus, as usual, in their several stages made a prominent feature in the list of the diseases which were admitted within the period of the present report.

N. B. It is intended to give these reports quarterly in future, and to publish them regularly at an earlier period after the books are made up.

*Report of Cases admitted under the Care of the Physicians, from  
1st. January, 1818, to 1st. April following.*

Febris - - - - -	6	Hydrocephalus acutus -	8
—— remittens - - -	5	—— chronicus -	7
—— catarrhalis - - -	10	Pneumonia - - - - -	18
Febricula - - - - -	10	Pleurodynia - - - - -	2
Tussis - - - - -	19	Icterus - - - - -	4
—— cum febre - - -	7	Erythema - - - - -	4
—— cum Dyspnœa - - -	4	Erysipelas - - - - -	5
Pertussis - - - - -	53	Hydrops - - - - -	4
Urticaria - - - - -	4	Dyspepsia - - - - -	13
Roseola - - - - -	4	Epistaxis - - - - -	1
Eruptiones variæ - - -	6	Cynanche Trachialis - -	14
—— cum febre - - -	3	Lumbrici - - - - -	11
Diarrhœa - - - - -	35	Ascarides - - - - -	9
Dysenteria - - - - -	10	Tænia - - - - -	2
Cholera Morbus - - -	11	Chorea Sancti Viti - -	7
Convulsiones - - - - -	15	Hæmoptoe - - - - -	2
Atrophia - - - - -	4	Spasmi musculorum manu-	
Tabes Mesenterica - - -	5	um et pedum - - -	4
Tormina - - - - -	6	Rheumatismus acutus - -	5
Vomitus - - - - -	3	Rachitis - - - - -	12
Morbilli - - - - -	18		
Varicella - - - - -	1		
			370

Although it appears by the above return, that the number of children admitted into the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, has been considerable since Christmas; yet, the general character of disease among them has been mild; at least, until the month of March. In January and February, measles and whooping cough were

prevalent, but far from severe. Scarcely a case ended fatally. Diarrhœa and catarrh, singly and in conjunction, formed a principal feature in the diseases of the season, but were mild and tractable. In the beginning of March, from fifteen to twenty cases of croup were brought to the Dispensary. The symptoms were of the most urgent nature, and indicated a high degree of inflammation in the membrane of the larynx and trachea. In the course of thirty-six hours from the attack, this disease became combined with pneumonia; the face quickly changed from a florid to a purple hue, the lips were dark and swollen, the eyes prominent, the breathing short and laborious, and seemingly painful; the voice extremely hoarse, and expiration stridulous, accompanied with a hard irritative cough; the pulse too rapid to admit of being numbered, and pyrexia intense. In this state two children expired, after having laboured under the disease five days. Three cases of well marked erysipelas infantile, in children under seven weeks old, were treated with success. One of them had an erysipelatous intumescence from head to foot, of a deep red colour, which as the pyrexia subsided, grew pale, and disappeared in extensive desquamations. The

eye-lids in this child were so swollen and tense, for eight or ten days, as to completely close the eyes, from the inner canthi of which, flowed copiously a purulent secretion. The eye-lids, face, and head, formed together a shapeless mass of swelling.

A fever, partaking of a bilious character, was frequent in the month of March. Several cases of genuine acute rheumatism were observed in children of three and four years of age. Catarrhal affections were also common in this month, not unfrequently ending in pneumonia. The character of hooping cough very severe.

Many children with dilated pupils, prominent eyes, and large heads, who had for months, at times, been attacked with convulsive motions of the whole body, have become patients of the Institution, labouring under a spastic rigidity of the lower and upper extremities. The arms and fingers of these patients, remain in an extended state for hours and days together, and are in general so exceedingly stiff, as not to be readily bent by the hand of another person; and if flexion of their fingers be thus produced, they resume

shortly after their former state of rigidity, and continue in it. These children have slight pyrexia, and are dull and inactive. The upper and lower extremities, are not however equally stiff at the same time. If the fingers and arms be rigid, the legs are frequently flexible: if these, on the contrary, be in a state of rigidity, the former are observed to regain their natural flexibility.

*List of Cases admitted under the Care of the Physicians of the Universal Dispensary for Children, St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors' Commons, between April 1, 1818, and September 1, following.*

Diseases.	No. of Cases.	Diseases.	No. of Cases.
Synocha - - - - -	51	Cynanche Trachealis -	3
Synochus - - - - -	98	———— Parotidæa -	2
Typhus - - - - -	21	Cynanche Tonsillaris -	12
Febris Intermittens -	10	Tussis - - - - -	15
———— Remittens - -	8	Phrenitis - - - - -	14
———— Catarrhalis - -	24	Ascites - - - - -	7
Pneumonia - - - - -	17	Cholera Morbus - -	34
Pertussis - - - - -	75	Morbilli - - - - -	49
Diarrhœa - - - - -	21	Scarlatina Simplex - -	6
Dysenteria - - - - -	10	Varicella - - - - -	15
Tabes Mesenterica - -	19	Paralysis - - - - -	4
Tormina - - - - -	8	Hydrocephalus Acutus	28

Diseases.	No. of Cases.	Diseases.	No. of Cases.
Hydrocephalus Chronicus	29	Chorea Sancti Viti - -	12
Urticaria - - - -	7	Epilepsia - - - - -	13
Dyspnœa - - - -	6	Convulsiones - - - -	26
Icterus - - - - -	11	Colica - - - - -	15
Aphthæ - - - - -	19	Cephalalgia - - - -	7
Pleuritis - - - - -	8	Pemphigus - - - - -	2
Erysipelas - - - -	14	Valetudo Infirma post	
Pompholyx - - - -	6	Morbillos - - - - -	13
Roseola - - - - -	7	Pleurodynia - - - -	4
Erythema - - - - -	15	Epistaxis - - - - -	2
Hæmoptysis - - - -	3	Vermes Ascarides - -	20
Phthisis - - - - -	2	———Lumbrici - - -	12
Rheumatismus - - -	14	———Tænia - - - -	2
Rachitis - - - - -	6	Hæmatemesis - - - -	3
Enteritis - - - - -	23	Psoriasis - - - - -	8
Dyspepsia - - - - -	26	Vomitus - - - - -	9
Atrophia - - - - -	5		
Hemiplegia - - - -	4		
Scrophula - - - - -	7		
Febris Hectica - - -	10		
		Total	903

From the first to the tenth of April, the cases of pneumonia brought into the Institution were numerous; but many of them were indistinctly marked in the beginning, and the pyrexia slight: catarrh was frequently the forerunner. In other instances, the membrane of the trachea was the primary seat of disease. Pyrexia, short and difficult breathing; a strong and rapid pulse, were

the first symptoms; to which succeeded, after five or six days, a painful and violent cough, flushed face, anxiety, restlessness, and all the well marked symptoms of pneumonia. The other diseases which occurred about this period in the Institution were measles, hooping-cough, and scarlatina, all of which were extremely severe, and all in turn modified with diarrhœa, and acute affections of the head. A bilious fever, commonly termed bilious remitting fever, prevailed also among children from three to ten years of age. But, it is proper to remark, that the remissions in this fever were generally so slight as scarcely to give a remitting type to the disease, and the more the fever assumed the character of synochus, the plainer it was to see that the functions of the liver were more particularly disturbed than the functions of any of the other abdominal viscera. Still, no malignant symptoms appeared in the progress of the disease; and whatever difference in the character of diseases, in which pyrexia, without topical inflammation, is the predominant symptom, may have formerly existed at certain seasons, in the course of a series of years, even from the time of Sydenham to our own days, no fact in medicine,

it may with truth be said, is better ascertained, than that malignant fever in general has neither been so frequent nor so severe, during the last ten or twelve years, as it was antecedent to that period.

Modern physicians, convinced that too slight an attention had formerly been given to the state of the secretions of the alimentary canal, and of the liver, and aware of the importance of this particular, have judiciously made an alteration in the condition of the secretions in these organs a primary object in their practice. Such an omission as this in the mode of treatment pursued by the old physicians, is, in itself, sufficient to account for the malignancy of the febrile disorders in their days: if not, to what are we to attribute the success now so universally met with in treating fevers precisely of the same nature; and, in many instances, threatening to become equally severe as in former years? Are we not to conclude, that the success of modern practice is chiefly owing to the bold plan of depletion, by means of purgatives administered at intervals through every stage of malignant fever?

The measles, in the months of May and June, were attended with very high pyrexia: in no disease did inflammatory action run to a greater height than in measles of this season. A true synocha accompanied the measles during several days; the pulse was hard and strong at 150; the tongue brown and dry; the lips parched; the face flushed; the respiration quick, and often laborious; the skin extremely hot and dry. Even in fevers of a continued type, without topical inflammation; and also in those fevers which accompanied other exanthemata, the pyrexia was never so intense as in measles. In many of the cases of this disease, which had been neglected in the beginning, the tongue, lips, and teeth were covered with the same kind of sordes as in typhus; still, no livid petechiæ appeared upon the body or extremities.

Two cases of anasarca, after erysipelas, were admitted into the Institution; they were both of some duration, but ended well. Two cases of intestinal hæmorrhage occurred in boys about ten years of age, labouring under synochus. One of the boys died; the other had a lingering recovery.

A boy, twelve years of age, had chorea sancti viti in its acute form, which proved very tedious and difficult to cure : it appeared to be idiopathic. The digestive organs, contrary to what is usual in this disease, scarcely experienced atony or irritation. The pyrexia was very considerable ; the pulse both strong and quick ; the head was painful ; the pupils were dilated, but the pupil of the right eye was more dilated than the pupil of the left eye ; the tongue was white, and covered with a moist tenacious sordes. Almost every part of the head and face, trunk and extremities, was in constant motion ; the arms were tossed up and down by violent jerks. The boy could neither stand, sit, nor lie still ; but all his motions were more moderate when he was put into an horizontal posture. He was frequently delirious ; and, at intervals, answered as an idiot : but, at last, he lost his speech for a fortnight. At times he sighed deeply. A month after the attack the febrile symptoms abated, and the disease put on the chronic character. In this state he continued three weeks, and was then again attacked with severe pyrexia, as at first ; and when this once again subsided, the disease persisted under its chronic form for three weeks longer ; at the end

of which time he began to mend, and was perfectly restored in about four months from the first attack, by a long perseverance in the use of chalybeates, and by changing his residence into the country.

In July and August, synochus, variously modified with diarrhœa, pleuritis, and inflammatory affections of the head, was very prevalent. In general, the stomach also partook, in a high degree, of the disease of the system, tension, and pain prevailing in the epigastric region, with a tongue denoting excessive gastric irritation. A few cases only of typhus mitior were brought into the Institution during these months, and these cases were all evidently milder than those which fell under our notice in the beginning of the summer. Synocha from cold, synocha from heat, and symptomatic synocha were met with throughout the months of July and August. Children, particularly those of two years of age and upwards, were as frequently the subjects of attack of cholera morbus as adults. In protracted instances of the disease, a copious hæmorrhage took place, sometimes oftener than once, from the bowels ; and enteritis was no uncommon

occurrence after several days continuance of cholera morbus. Accompanied with fever of the character of synochus, inflammatory affections of the liver, stomach, and other chylopoietic viscera, were frequent; all these were, for the most part, attended with considerable tension of the abdomen, and a peculiar tenderness, such as is met with in peritoneal inflammation. In the bodies of two children, who died in this state, extensive adhesions were found, of the omentum to the peritonæum, and of this membrane to the liver and intestines. Intus-susception was also met with in both, and marks of inflammation in the intestines, particularly in the colon, which was highly inflamed, and in various parts contracted. Several well-marked cases of erysipelas infantile, in children about nine weeks old, occurred, and ended favourably. Scarlatina was in general mild, measles also; but the whooping-cough, on the contrary, was frequently severe, and combined with pneumonia, hydrocephalus, and paralysis. Catarrhal affections were seldom seen till the latter end of August. Phrenitis and hydrocephalus acutus were very common, not only in children about the period of dentition, but in other also, from two to twelve years of

age. A variety of gastric affections, with and without pyrexia, occurred in children of all ages; and in some, terminated in diarrhœa, dysentery, and cholera morbus.

N.B. To the physicians who have drawn up the foregoing report, the editor of the *Medico-Chirurgical Journal* begs to return grateful thanks; and hopes for a continuance of their favours.

*A List of Cases admitted under the Care of the Physicians of the Universal Dispensary for Children, from September 1, 1818, to December 1, following.*

Synochus - - - - -	49	Epilepsia - - - - -	4
Febris catarrhalis - - -	30	Paralysis - - - - -	3
Pertussis - - - - -	26	Erysipelas - - - - -	8
Scarlatina - - - - -	18	Pleuritis - - - - -	6
Cynanche Trachealis - -	9	Diarrhœa - - - - -	41
Morbilli - - - - -	27	Dysentery - - - - -	11
Hydrocephalus acutus -	10	Aphthæ - - - - -	10
Hydrocephalus chron. -	8	Asthma - - - - -	2
Enteritis - - - - -	15	Tabes Mesenterica - -	12
Gastritis - - - - -	8	Icterus - - - - -	9
Pneumonia - - - - -	51	Erythema - - - - -	13
Cholera Morbus - - -	13	Ascites - - - - -	2
Phrenitis - - - - -	18	Anasarca - - - - -	4
Varicella - - - - -	10	Pyrexia - - - - -	11
Hydrothorax - - - -	3	Rheumatismus - - - -	5
Chorea Sancti Viti - -	6	Tormina - - - - -	12
Urticaria - - - - -	8	Rachitis - - - - -	3

Scrophula - - - - -	11	Erythema - - - - -	8
Ascarides - - - - -	10	Roscola - - - - -	3
Lumbrici - - - - -	5	Hæmatemesis - - - - -	1
Tænia - - - - -	2		
Convulsio - - - - -	16		<hr/> 521

In the early part of September, a great many cases of fever, chiefly resembling synochus, were noticed among the children that were brought to the Dispensary, from two to ten years of age. It attacked with the usual symptoms of nausea, vomiting, shivering, flushed countenance, heaviness of the eye, redness of the conjunctiva; shortness of breathing; tenderness; pain and oppression at the præcordia; pain in the head, which was frequently intense; excessive thirst and prostration of strength. In some of the patients, the skin had a yellow tint from the commencement of the attack; and in others, it became so in the progress of the fever, though it was by no means an invariable appearance. In the majority of instances, the alvine discharge was considerably diminished, the tongue uniformly covered with a thick white or yellow sordes; the pulse rapid, strong, and bordering upon hardness; the urine small in quantity and high coloured. The chil-

dren thus attacked were in a state of continued restlessness and jactitation, and in a few hours they became delirious, screaming out very often from the severity of pain in the head. This fever had no perceptible remission, even after five or six days' duration, at which period of the disease, the patients generally became comatose, respired with a slight stertor, and when roused, seldom so far recovered their senses as to recognize the persons around them; or, if they did, instantly screamed out, then moaned, tossed themselves about involuntarily, and appeared to experience distressing and painful anxiety. In the protracted cases of this fever, all the well marked symptoms of hydrocephalus supervened; and dissection proved that congestion had existed to a great extent in the brain—that effusion in the ventricles, and between the dura and pia mater, had been the immediate causes of a fatal issue.

The viscera of the abdomen bore however, in these cases, evident marks of active inflammation, particularly the stomach and intestines; and the liver was unusually large, and of a firmer texture than natural.

Frequent opportunities presented themselves, at this season, to notice, among children that were brought to the Dispensary, considerable derangements in the hepatic function, under which their health visibly declined, though no disease of a specific character had, as far as could be detected, formed in the system. Progressively, they became languid, feeble, and irritable; the skin grew sallow; the abdomen large; the food was rejected; now and then diarrhœa came on. The stools seldom contained any admixture of bile, and either resembled jalap mixed with water, or the paste of oatmeal, and always had a peculiar fœtor. These cases were not easily relieved, and often degenerated into true synochus. Even where an early opportunity had been given to treat these hepatic derangements, the biliary secretion would continue irregular, and vitiated for two or three months, one day appearing in excess and highly acrid, another day being suspended or passing off in green viscid drops, separate from the fæces. Neglected instances of this affection degenerated into colliquative diarrhœas and dysentery, and the patients died hectic.

Enteritis, cholera morbus, dysentery, and diarrhœa, were the more uniform diseases in October: but, in November, synochus, in all its various modifications, especially that form of it in conjunction with phrenitis, was by far the most common acute disease among children, from two to ten years of age.—The hooping-cough now also began to prevail with considerable severity; catarrhal affections and pneumonia, the scarlet fever, roseola autumnalis, varicella, and urticaria. Many cases of acute rheumatism were likewise noticed in infants under two years of age. One child, nine months old, had this disease, in its most acute form, in the shoulders, wrists, and knees. Phrenitis appeared, often as a modification of fever, sometimes in connection with dentition, and was attended with convulsions and strabismus. During the three months embraced in this report, hydrocephalus acutus and chronicus, were, as usual, frequent diseases. Neither was the season free from erysipelatous affections, though they were, upon the whole, mild, with the exception of one case of a boy, eleven years of age, who had an attack of erysipelas in the right leg and thigh, which extended from the pubis to the toe, accompanied with considerable

extravasation in the cellular membrane, independent of large and diffused vesications on the surface. He had high pyrexia, a feeble and rapid pulse, a black tongue, and was comatose throughout every stage of the disease. After continuing four weeks, it produced a permanent contraction of the flexor tendons of the muscles of the leg and thighs; but the boy recovered his health.

A case of a child, with periodical fever, and an appearance of bullæ of the size of a small almond on the body and lower extremities, connected with a dyspeptic state of the stomach and bowels, has baffled every treatment for months. Successive bullæ appeared upon each attack of fever. The child grew hectic; but is at present in the country, under more promising circumstances.

Since the latter end of October, all the acute diseases of children have been exceedingly severe, and at the time of writing our report, the character of severity is daily heightening: fevers, visceral inflammation, measles, whooping-cough, all prevailing under an aggravated form. Cynanche trachealis has occurred frequently;

cynanche parotidœa and scarlatina are reigning diseases at this moment.

“Dr. Johnson presents his compliments to Dr. Davis, and begs leave to return the accompanying report for amalgamation, or connection with the next quarters, which Dr. J. would be glad to have by the 15th of June next. Dr. Johnson begs to state, that very many of his correspondents have expressed their regret, that Dr. Davis did not, of late, enter more into therapeutics, than mere history or symptomatology. The profession looks for instruction to the officers of public Institutions, and these officers cannot better secure the gratitude of their brethren, or their own interest, than by a free and liberal communication of the knowledge thus acquired. Dr. Johnson is confident, that this hint will not be lost on a man of Dr. Davis’s liberality.

The first report was admired as a model, the subsequent ones were considered as curtailed of a valuable feature.”

Albany, Piccadilly, 18th April, 1819.\*

\* To this note, Dr. Davis replied, by saying, that his future Reports should enter into general therapeutics, as much as time and opportunity would admit of.

*Report on the Diseases, Medical and Surgical, admitted into the  
Universal Dispensary for Children, from December 1, 1818, to  
June 1, 1819, including a List of the Cases.*

Diseases.	No. of Cases.	Diseases.	No. of Cases.
Synochus - - - - -	64	Cholera Morbus - - - -	26
Typhus - - - - -	4	Rheumatismus - - - -	16
Febris intermittens - -	8	Coryza Maligna - - - -	5
—— catarrhalis - - -	20	Hydrothorax - - - -	1
Erysipelas - - - - -	34	Paralysis - - - - -	8
Scarlatina - - - - -	36	Aphthæ - - - - -	4
Morbilli - - - - -	29	Asthma - - - - -	5
Varicella - - - - -	23	Syncope - - - - -	2
Urticaria - - - - -	21	Hæmatemesis - - - -	2
Roseola - - - - -	10	Dyspepsia - - - - -	30
Erythema - - - - -	20	Tabes mesenterica - - -	33
Strophulus - - - - -	20	Phthisis - - - - -	2
Cynanche tonsillaris - -	19	Icterus - - - - -	14
—— maligna - - -	13	Ascites - - - - -	2
—— trachealis - - -	34	Pemphigus - - - - -	2
—— parotidæa - - -	16	Ichthyosis - - - - -	2
Pertussis - - - - -	55	Dysentery - - - - -	20
Hydrocephalus Acutus -	28	Diarrhœa - - - - -	47
—— chronicus - - -	30	Palpitatio Cordis - - -	6
Convulsio - - - - -	43	Bullæ - - - - -	4
Epilepsia - - - - -	5	Anasarca - - - - -	3
Chorea Sancti Viti - - -	18	Tænia - - - -	2
Hepatitis - - - - -	2	Vermes { Ascarides - - -	12
Enteritis - - - - -	19	{ Lumbrici - - -	0
Gastritis - - - - -	12	Tormina - - - - -	16
Carditis - - - - -	11	Pyrosis - - - - -	2
Phrenitis - - - - -	19	Rachitis - - - - -	15
Pleuritis - - - - -	6	Surgical cases - - - -	75
Pneumonia - - - - -	96		
Tussis - - - - -	24		
Ophthalmia - - - - -	26		
		Total	1130

## MEDICAL.

Remarkable as the winter has been for its mildness, children have suffered under every kind of acute disease, with unusual severity. In the month of January, erysipelas, scarlatina, whooping-cough, and measles, were the reigning diseases, particularly scarlatina, which was frequently attended with, or followed by inflammation of the lungs, intestines, and brain.

Synochus was the most frequent form of fever. It occasionally degenerated into typhus; and at other times, it produced considerable congestion in the cerebral system, which ended in hydrocephalus. When this was the case, the children became comatose in the early stage of the fever, delirious, manifested the presence of acute pain in the head; then they were attacked with convulsions, which, when the disease proved fatal, recurred once in five or six hours. Several children expired in this state after twelve or fourteen days' duration of the fever.

Cholera morbus, enteritis, gastritis, pneumonia, and acute rheumatism, were also among the dis-

eases of this month. Urticaria and varicella were likewise frequent and severe. The latter was accompanied with very high pyrexia, vomiting, acute pain in the head and back; the pustules were large, their bases widely inflamed, uniting with each other, and becoming confluent. These symptoms sometimes continued after the appearance of the eruption; and prevailed, for three or four days, with considerable severity, prior to its appearance. At the latter end of January, cases of pneumonia, combined with cynanche trachealis, began to be common; also cynanche tonsillaris and cynanche maligna, sometimes with, at others without, the scarlet efflorescence. The latter was no evidence either of the severity or mildness of cynanche tonsillaris, or cynanche maligna; nor was the efflorescence necessary to prove an identity of the disease. It was perfectly obvious, that efflorescence was merely one of the appearances connected with cynanche, and not an essential character.

Affections of the trachea appeared under every modification in the month of February; but, in general, were of a very severe description. This disease was frequently preceded by catarrhal af-

fections, and generally ended in pneumonia. Croup has not, for many years in London, prevailed so much as during the last six weeks. Four or five children have been attacked at the same time, in one family. In many children, croup, catarrhal affections, pneumonia, and convulsions, were simultaneous. Several infants of six weeks or two months old, were brought into the Dispensary with coryza, answering to the description of coryza maligna of authors. The pituitary membrane, throughout its whole extent, was in a state of active inflammation. A copious discharge, of a purulent nature, issued from the nostrils, and even from the mouth. Pneumonia and convulsions often succeeded this disease. Hydrocephalus acutus was, as usual, one of the most frequent diseases among the children at this Institution. It was, however, rarely idiopathic; not a primary, but a secondary disease. Two girls, about ten years of age, were attacked with well marked phrenitis. In young children there were many instances of this disease; but it appeared to be preceded by fever, or local inflammation of the thoracic or abdominal viscera.

Carditis was of frequent occurrence. Some of

the patients under the influence of this disease, were previously attacked with acute rheumatism. A boy, about eight years of age, was first attacked with acute rheumatism, from which he recovered; but, from imprudent exposure on the outside of a coach, on a wet day, was subsequently seized with pyrexia, acute pains, apparently pleuritic, cough, and extreme difficulty of breathing. After remaining a week in this situation, he lost all power of motion of the right side, experienced numbness of the lower extremities, syncope, and partial cold sweats; and he could only breathe, even with tolerable ease, when in an upright posture; very little palpitation of the heart was observable. At the end of three weeks from this second attack, he died and was opened. The thorax contained half a pint of fluid in its cavity; the pleura adhered in two or three places to the lungs; the heart was larger and heavier than usual, and all the valves were covered with red specks. The pericardium contained more fluid than usual. The abdominal viscera and brain were healthy. Is not rheumatism an inflammation of the muscular coats of small arteries? Is not rheumatism often combined with carditis?

A boy of ten years of age is in the Dispensary with ichthyosis. His constitution is evidently scrophulous; but his health is tolerably good. Two cases of pemphigus have occurred, and two of erythema nodosum. Chorea Sancti Viti, in its chronic form, has been frequent. Only two cases of intermittent fever have been met with in February.

Cynanche tonsillaris and maligna, cynanche trachealis, cholera morbus, enteritis, erysipelas, cynanche parotidœa, scarlatina, pneumonia, measles, and hooping-cough, all prevailed with severity in February: synochus was the reigning fever. Chronic diseases, as usual, were frequent; jaundice, dropsy, dyspepsy, tabes mesenterica, rickets, hydrocephalus chronicus, and cutaneous diseases — Nor did the month of March produce much change in the general features of disease in children. Synochus, sometimes in conjunction with phrenitis, at others with gastritis and enteritis, and now and then modified with diarrhœa, cholera morbus, and icterus, was the common form of fever, both in March and in April; pure idiopathic synochus does not, in the Reporter's opinion, ever exist as a primary disease. Considera-

ble pain and tension at the epigastric region, for instance, especially if attended with vomiting and constipation, during the existence of synochus, leave but little doubt of some disease having primarily affected the stomach ; and if the pain and tension extend to the umbilicus and the hypochondria, or to either of these regions, the organs beneath them, it is probable, are in a state of disease previous to the developement of fever. The same remark holds good with respect to the head. Pain, giddiness, confusion of thought, dullness, are felt before pyrexia takes place. The more common form of fever in children is evidently synochus ; and when it changes its character, it oftener verges to synocha than typhus. Unless the brain is primarily affected, in a very severe manner, the fever is rarely of a typhoid nature, and not then, until the disease has been of eight or ten days' duration.

Some few cases of vernal intermittent have occurred ; all of which, with the exception of one, were mild, and effectually removed by small doses of the submuriate of mercury, administered night and morning. Pneumonia has diminished since March, in the frequency of its appearance, but

not in severity ; it is one of the most common, as well as one of the most fatal diseases of infancy, and very insidious in its approach, often existing without much pyrexia, and when the cough is slight. Nor is it unusual for pneumonia to exist with carditis. If the respiration of a child be quick, but particularly if it be laborious, and apparently painful ; if the child wheezes, coughs occasionally, and is sleepless, it is dangerous to delay topical bleeding and active purging, even though there be scarcely any pyrexia. There is no acute disease to which children are liable, that is not instantly relieved by topical or general bleeding. When this remedy fails of its usual efficacy, it is either because it is not resorted to early enough, and to a sufficient extent, or because it is pushed too far, at an advanced period of the disease, when the child is exhausted, or an extensive change of structure produced.

In every Report, hydrocephalus forms a prominent feature, both as an acute and as a chronic disease. A brief statement of an extraordinary case of hydrocephalus congenitus will be interesting.—

From the period of this child's\* birth, to the present day, the head, which was much larger at the birth than natural, has rapidly increased, and has acquired such an extent, as to now measure twenty-four inches round the chin and vertex, and the same number of inches round the forehead and occiput. Mr. Cox, the Apothecary of the Institution, has handed this measurement to the Reporter. All the sutures of the head are widely separated. The sagittal suture is at least an inch in width, and may be traced to the ossa nasi, the fontanel is nearly as broad as the palm of the hand. The coronal suture is half an inch wide, and the lambdoidal suture unusually open. Such is the weight of this enormous head, that the child is incapable of holding it upright; it falls back, and inclines to the right side. The shoulders are thrust up, and the dorsal vertebræ incurvated. The eyes are perpetually in motion; the pupils slightly dilated: vision apparently good. The child is perfectly sensible of its parents' frowns and caresses, and possesses the same degree of intellectual capacity as is common to children of that age; the parents think more.

\* Harriet Caxton, residing at Hackney, aged eleven months.

The complexion is healthy ; the face plump, the body and limbs the same, all partaking, however, less of obesity than bloatedness. With a disease of the magnitude described, it will excite surprise to hear, that the child's health has been uniformly good, from its birth to the present time. It was the intention of the Reporter, to have had the dura mater punctured by Mr. Dendy, one of the Surgeons of the Institution ; but he regrets to add, that the child's parents have taken it into the country, from a fear probably of the operation being attempted.

In the course of the three last months, erysipelas has been frequently seen ; and, in many instances, in a very aggravated form, not only attacking the face, and the body about the pubes, but the lower extremities, principally at the upper and inner parts of the thighs, producing a continuity of the eruption with that in the region of the pubis. The vesications were large on the face and confluent, those on the thighs and pubis small and distinct. The œdematous swelling, which was of a very deep red colour, and tense to the touch, extended over the scalp, and often down to the shoulders. In one very severe case,

the abdomen also was tense, exceedingly tender, and covered with numerous vesications. The Reporter could not divest himself of the opinion of the existence of peritoneal inflammation, in this instance, in conjunction with erysipelas. The child, who was two years of age, was violently convulsed, vomited frequently, and was delirious. Its pulse was rapid and strong, the respiration quick, and the bowels confined. The disease had been of three days' duration, when the child was brought to the Dispensary. Four leeches were ordered to be applied, two to the abdomen, and one behind each ear; and four more to be applied to the same parts the following day. The bowels were opened with *ol. ricini*, and two grains of the submuriate of mercury administered once in six hours, during three days, and one grain and a half of the *pulv. ipec. co.* given every night at bed-time. This plan succeeded. The disease yielded from the commencement, and the child entirely recovered under the use of diaphoretic and slightly aperient medicines.

Another child was brought to the Institution in a very advanced stage of erysipelas, and died three days after its admission: it was one year

old; its face was covered with one continued black crust, which extended from ear to ear, and from the chin to the posterior part of the scalp. No vestige of a feature could be traced. From the eye-lids, which were glued together, a purulent fluid occasionally issued. From the nostrils, which were thick and large, flowed a similar fluid, in one continued stream; and from the angles of the mouth issued a brown fetid ichor. The face exhibited the appearance of the face of a person in the last stage of small-pox of the worst description, before dissolution. In different parts of the body and extremities, erysipelatous blotches broke out. Local bleedings, evaporating lotions to the face, and small doses of the submuriate of mercury, in conjunction with the pulv. ipec. comp. produced a temporary amendment; but the child expired in a convulsion, with which it was attacked on the third day.

Cholera morbus has, at this season, been more frequent than usual, among children. It has now and then preceded phrenitis, and has been always accompanied with considerable pyrexia, sometimes with gastritis and enteritis: very young children were most often the subjects of it. The

Reporter is convinced, that many children who are suddenly carried off in a fit, die from inflammation of the stomach, or the intestines. Enteritis in particular, with intus-susception, exists often, when a child's illness is attributed to irritation of the primæ viæ, from a dyspeptic state of the stomach and bowels. From some accidental cause, the inflammation undergoes a sudden and considerable increase, and the patient unexpectedly dies in a fit.—Dissection has shown, that children who had been first attacked with pneumonia, and who had recovered of this disease, had died of inflammation of the ileum, when death had been attributed to convulsions, from irritation merely of some other part primarily affected. This was placed beyond all doubt in one particular instance, where the brain was entirely free from disease; the heart sound; the lungs free from every appearance of recent disease; the upper portion of the ilium for about three inches was inflamed, of which there was no suspicion, as the child's bowels were thoroughly open, and who, with the exception of having slight pyrexia and vomiting, occasionally, appeared in all other respects to be regaining its health very fast.

Scarlatina has been generally mild. Varicella so severe as to be preceded by very high pyrexia for three days; delirium; incessant vomiting; acute pains in the back and head; jactitation; a hard and rapid pulse. Slight laxatives and saline diaphoretics were all that were necessary in scarlatina; varicella required local bleedings from the head and epigastric region, and active purging.

In several cases of phrenitis, attended with convulsions, and other fore-runners of effusion into the brain, the Reporter has had the opportunity of carrying a general bleeding into effect with the greatest benefit. A child of two years old had nearly three ounces of blood drawn from the arm, after having had two fits, which had left it in a comatose state, with immediate relief. The fits did not return. The child became a convalescent from the moment it was bled. Upon another occasion, the external jugular was opened, and about the same quantity of blood drawn off; this case also ended well. The Reporter has no doubt of such vigorous treatment often averting hydrocephalus, unless previous exhaustion, combined with previous and more extended dis-

ease, renders it hazardous to resort to this active practice.

Measles have been mild, and by no means general. Hooping-cough, on the contrary, general and severe. Most of the cases brought to the Dispensary have been combined with pneumonia. In a boy of six years old, the lungs were condensed in large portions, slightly inflamed in others, and from some parts of the lungs, drops of pus were squeezed out. The heart, in this subject, was also inflamed. Local bleedings proved more serviceable in the treatment of hooping-cough than any other remedy; even in the milder cases they were highly useful; and if the submuriate of mercury does not remove hooping-cough, it always renders it more mild, by diminishing both the severity and the duration of the fit. Urticaria and roseola were among the exanthemata of most frequent occurrence.

Several well marked cases of rheumatism have been seen among children under three years of age. They required local bleedings, in addition to diaphoretics and mercurial purges for their

removal. Dysentery, it will be observed in the catalogue of diseases, has been rather frequent. It has appeared both as a primary disease, and as a disease in connection with mesenteric disease. Chronic dysentery is more commonly met with among children than dysentery in its acute form, and is then nearly always connected with other visceral disease, usually of the mesentery and liver. Icterus, with fever and without fever, singly and conjoined with ascites, or tabes mesenterica, has been met with very frequently: paralysis of the lower extremities in eight instances. Of all the chronic affections, however, to which infancy is liable, dyspepsy is the most general; tabes mesenterica, and rickets, contribute also, in no small degree, to fill the Institution.

### SURGICAL.

The surgical diseases of children, which have fallen under the Reporter's notice during the three last months, have consisted principally of scrophulous enlargements of the glands, scrophulous affections of the skin, the spine, and joints;

ophthalmia, distortions from rickets, abscess, and cutaneous eruptions of different kinds: besides which, many local affections appearing in the form of tumour, inflammation and ulcer have occurred, in connection with constitutional symptoms; affections which have established a secondary disease, as difficult of removal as the primary one. Many instances of extensive cuticular inflammation, and ulcer, after fever and rheumatism have presented themselves; which, after baffling medical and surgical treatment, have yielded only to a change of air, and a well arranged dietetic system.

There is, at this time, an interesting case, in the Dispensary, of a child who, after having had considerable incurvation of both tibiæ, the result of an attack of typhus, is, under the use of a nutritious diet, and the artificial support given to the tibiæ by instruments, fast recovering its health, and the form and functions of its legs.

A girl attends, with a strumous enlargement of the cervical glands. On the skin of the face, the small follicles inflame, suppurate, and coalesce, producing an ulcer, and corrugation of the inte-

guments on healing. The case is remarkable, both for its long standing, and for the peculiarity of the eruption itself. It has resisted numerous remedies ; but, at length, appears to be yielding to the use of a caustic solution and tonic medicines.

A boy has recovered from scrophulous ulceration of the sebaceous glands of the eye-lids and ophthalmia, by the use of the ungt. hydrarg. nitrat. and antimonial medicines.

A girl attends with tumours in the neck, accompanied with erysipelatous inflammation of the face, and an abscess at the internal angle of the left eye. The inflammation is removed, and the abscess healed ; but the glands still remain enlarged. To these she is using ungt. hydrarg. dilut.

A child was brought with acute inflammation of the periosteum of the tibia, from contusion ; with intense pain on pressure, and inability to move the limb. A large blister was laid over the gastrocnemii, after the application of leeches, and

the tibia constantly bathed with liq. ammon. acet. The child can now walk without experiencing any pain, and is likely to recover perfectly, without the occurrence of any exfoliation.

A case was presented of ophthalmia, with ulcers of the cornea in both eyes, and loss of vision. The right eye is quite restored, and the left nearly so. The ulcers are filled up, a very slight opacity only remaining. The remedies employed were p. rhei c<sup>m</sup> hyd. submur, &c. Lotions of zinc and arg. nitrat. and the ungt. hydr. nitr. mit.

An obstinate cutaneous affection of the face, resembling the "Lepra alphas," as delineated by Willan, frequently disappearing and recurring, with great constitutional debility, has existed in a girl for several years, with little amendment. The remedies which appear the most useful, are lotio hydrarg. oxymur. and ungt. picis. with the internal exhibition of ferrum tartarizatum.

A case of double cataract occurs, with great dilatation of the pupil, but not from mechanical

distension, indicating a paralytic state of nerve, and forbidding the operation.

A child was admitted with curvature of the spine, attended with considerable febrile symptoms, and difficulty of breathing, owing to the lateral contraction of the thorax. A seton has been introduced in the back, and rest enjoined; but no good effect has been yet produced in this case.

A scrophulous child was brought, with extensive abscess under the fascia lata, originating in an affection of the lumbar region, with a tumour also on the left shoulder, and on each ankle, accompanied with great emaciation. The infant is troubled with cough, and frequent convulsions. The tumour on the thigh has been twice punctured. The first operation (May 25th) was followed by the evacuation of two ounces of pus, and about the same quantity oozed from the orifice on the first day. The child is as well as it was before the operation, sleeps naturally, and does not appear to be debilitated by the discharge. On the repetition of the puncture (May 29th), two ounces more of fluid escaped, the integu-

ments became flaccid, and the thigh was strapped with adhesive plaister. The cough is much better, and the convulsions seldom occur.

It is with regret that we have here to mention, the loss of one of the most important Medical and Surgical Reports of the Institution ; embracing a period of three months, from the 1st of June 1819, to the 1st of September. Soon after the transmission of this paper to the editor of the Medico-Chirurgical Journal, Dr. Davis received a letter from Dr. Johnson, (the then principal Editor) in which the above Report was returned, informing Dr. Davis of the change he had adopted in his Journal, by making it in future merely an Analytical Review ; and of the impracticability of hereafter giving insertion in it to original communications. This being the case, Dr. Davis forwarded the paper, together with a subsequent Report to Dr. Uwins for insertion in the Medical Repository. The latter was, however, only published, which occasioned Dr. Davis to write to Dr. Uwins, to request the favour of him to enquire into the cause of such omission. To this note, he received the following reply from Dr. Uwins.

Dr. Uwins is exceedingly concerned, at having so long delayed to reply to Dr. Davis, respecting the papers, which he is very sorry also to say are destroyed. Dr. Uwins felt unwilling to say so much, till he had looked thoroughly over all his manuscripts.

13, Bedford Row, Thursday Morning.

Thus is there a deficiency in the series. We have annexed the best Table of the Diseases of that period, from the Apothecary's Register, that we could collect. As to the Medical remarks, we have no memorandum of.

The following letter Dr. Davis received from Dr. Johnson.

DEAR SIR,

As I have received from all quarters the most pressing solicitations, to conduct the Medico-Chirurgical Journal, on the plan of an Analytical Review, so it is out of my power to insert original papers in future, excepting in the form of short extracts, in appropriate situations of the review. I beg to return you many thanks for your valuable reports on infantile diseases, and make no doubt that, should you be inclined to continue them, either of the other

two Medical Journals, whose plans admit of original articles, will be glad to publish them. I beg you will also express my thanks to Mr. Dendy, for his Surgical Reports. Wishing every success to your establishment,

I am, dear Sir,

Your's truly,

**J. JOHNSON."**

Albany, Piccadilly, 21st December, 1819.

Dr. Davis.

*A List of the Cases admitted under the care of the Physicians of  
the Universal Dispensary for Children, St. Andrew's Hill,  
Doctors' Commons, from June 1, 1819, to September 1.*

Diseases.	No. of Cases.	Diseases.	No. of Cases.
Synochus - - - - -	56	Scrophula - - - - -	10
Febris Intermittens - - -	2	Rheumatismus - - - - -	11
Pneumonia - - - - -	51	Catarrhus - - - - -	21
Enteritis - - - - -	16	Cynanche Tonsillaris - - -	8
Phrenitis - - - - -	10	———— Parotidæa - - -	5
Gastritis Erythemat - - -	11	———— Trachealis - - -	4
Pleuritis - - - - -	5	Scarlatina - - - - -	33
Cholera Morbus - - - - -	20	Hæmatemesis - - - - -	10
Diarrhœa - - - - -	26	Atrophia - - - - -	3
Dysenteria - - - - -	10	Tussis - - - - -	21
Rubeola - - - - -	13	Porrigio - - - - -	20
Erysipelas - - - - -	8	Dyspepsia - - - - -	17
Roseola - - - - -	2	Lumbrici - - - - -	9
Varicella - - - - -	6	Ascarides - - - - -	4
Erythema - - - - -	11	Tænia - - - - -	8
Bullæ - - - - -	5	Anasarca - - - - -	2
Urticaria - - - - -	3	Ascites - - - - -	2
Strophulus - - - - -	6	Icterus - - - - -	8
Hydrocephalus Acutus - - -	10	Tormina - - - - -	6
———— Chronicus - - -	5	Papulæ - - - - -	8
Convulsio - - - - -	11	Surgical Cases - - - - -	76
Pertussis - - - - -	39		
Pyrexia - - - - -	51		
		Total	663

# MEDICAL REPORT.

*A List of the Cases admitted under the Care of the Physicians at  
the Universal Dispensary for Children, St. Andrew's Hill,  
Doctors' Commons, between Sept. 1st and Dec. 1st, 1819.*

Diseases.	No. of Cases.	Diseases.	No. of Cases.
Synocha - - - - -	28	Pyrexia - - - - -	4
Synochus - - - - -	68	Febris Catarrhalis - - -	12
Pneumonia - - - - -	72	Rheumatismus - - - - -	4
Pertussis - - - - -	124	Cynanche Tonsillaris - -	10
Tussis - - - - -	10	———— Parotidæa - -	4
Rubeola - - - - -	26	Hæmaturia - - - - -	1
Scarlatina - - - - -	8	Scrophula - - - - -	15
Erysipelas - - - - -	5	Nephralgia Arenosa - -	1
Varicellæ - - - - -	6	Porrigo - - - - -	20
Urticaria - - - - -	2	Atrophia - - - - -	16
Erythema - - - - -	4	Dyspepsia - - - - -	10
Strophulus - - - - -	10	Lumbrici - - - - -	15
Bullæ - - - - -	2	Ascarides - - - - -	11
Phrenitis - - - - -	12	Tænia - - - - -	1
Hydrocephalus Acutus -	8	Ascites - - - - -	2
———— Chronicus -	3	Anasarca - - - - -	4
Gastritis - - - - -	8	Ichthyosis - - - - -	1
Cholera Morbus - - -	8	Dysuria - - - - -	1
Enteritis - - - - -	10	Otitis - - - - -	1
Diarrhœa - - - - -	65	Tormina - - - - -	15
Dysenteria - - - - -	13	Papulæ - - - - -	3
Hepatitis - - - - -	2	Aphthæ - - - - -	3
Convulsio - - - - -	26		—
Lienteria - - - - -	2		673
Coryza Maligna - - -	2		—

At the approach of winter it is that the hooping-cough is usually frequent and severe. This assertion was never more completely verified than in the present season. Every third or fourth patient admitted into the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, had hooping-cough: and a very large proportion of those patients who had pertussis, had it in conjunction with pneumonia and convulsions, the former of which ended often in effusion in the bronchiæ and cavity of the thorax, the latter often in effusion into the ventricles of the brain. Pertussis has this season proved unusually fatal. The worst cases were not brought into the Institution until after three weeks duration of the disease. The children had already short, interrupted, and laborious respiration, ardent pyrexia, turgid countenance, flushed cheeks, and livid lips. With these symptoms, the paroxysms of cough were long, severe, and without expectoration, and terminated in excessive anxiety, violent palpitations of the heart and convulsions. Nor did infants under twelve months old alone experience all these symptoms in the severest degree. Children of four and five years of age were attacked in a similar manner, and in many instances died.

It is a curious fact, that measles, prevail at the same season as whooping-cough. In more cases than one, an eruption precisely similar to measles, accompanied with all the other symptoms usually attendant upon this disease, has appeared in children whilst they were under the full and complete influence of whooping-cough, of about three weeks standing. In the course of three or four days it has disappeared, leaving the patients in the same state with respect to whooping-cough. The measles of this autumn have in general been severe; and the fever which accompanied this disease, has been invariably of the character of synocha. The more urgent symptoms were usually carried off in two or three days, by local bleedings on the chest, pushed to such an extent as to produce a decided effect upon the system at large; by active purgatives and saline diaphoretics. Whenever the inflammatory action directed itself to the intestines, local bleedings on the abdomen and small doses of the submuriate of mercury, administered night and morning, proved very efficacious. If colliquative diarrhœa succeeded with hectic fever, absorbents and astringents, with opiates and blisters, to the abdomen

were most successful.\* Not any case of typhus was brought to the Institution. Synochus, on the contrary, prevailed in the most extensive manner, in all its modifications, with functional derangement of the stomach, liver, intestines, and brain. Synocha was more particularly confined to children under progress of dentition, or to those who were attacked with measles, cynanche tonsillaris, and cynanche scarlatina. It is rare to meet with a well-marked case of intermittent.

\* Unless purgatives, local bleedings, and diaphoretics be freely employed in the treatment of measles, it generally happens that the inflammatory action, which falls, at first, upon the chest, is afterwards directed to the bowels, and produces painful diarrhœa.

Sometimes eight or ten days will intervene between the first attack of measles and diarrhœa. Is this to be considered colliquative diarrhœa? Certainly not. It is, on the contrary, a relic of inflammatory action; and to be removed by bleedings, mercurials, and diaphoretics. The diagnosis between the two kinds of diarrhœa is important. That diarrhœa can, in our judgment, alone be regarded colliquative, in which the pyrexia is slight and periodical, the abdomen free from tension, the pain, on going to stool, moderate, the motions rapid and thin, the system in a state of great exhaustion, suffering under irritation. An accurate attention to this is indispensable. By it the proper line of practice must be determined.

Scarlatina has occasionally appeared at different periods, during the three last months. At this moment it is prevailing with considerable severity. Roseola is frequently epidemical at the latter end of autumn, and although a milder disease than scarlatina, is often mistaken for it. Only a few cases of cynanche parotidæa have been admitted, all of which were mild. Erysipelas infantilis, still, at times, occurs. Several decided specimens have been brought to the Institution since our last Report. This disease appears to be more common among children suckled by nurses. In two recent instances, children that were taken from the mother's breast at the end of four months, to all appearance in good health, were attacked with erysipelas a month or six weeks after they had been put to the breast of a nurse.

Of every infanticide, however, pneumonia is the greatest, a large proportion of the whole of the admissions into this Institution, has consisted of this disease, either alone, or in conjunction with other diseases. Although copious bleedings and mercurials have ever proved highly efficacious, in subduing pulmonary inflammation, yet

numbers of children are daily falling victims to it. To pneumonia there seems to be a strong tendency in children weakened by previous disease; the slightest exciting cause will produce it. Children often survive weeks, nay, months, with pneumonia, when it is scarcely suspected by practitioners to exist. Under the influence of slight, but protracted cough, a small portion of lung inflames. It is in part subdued, or remains stationary. The child's health is not much disturbed. On a sudden, fresh inflammation comes on, and an extensive disease declares itself.

Phrenitis is a very common disease among children, more common than hydrocephalus. It has appeared to be the immediate cause of convulsions, and death in many of our patients. It frequently co-exists with inflammation of the abdominal, or thoracic viscera.

Diarrhœa and dysentery, as usual, greatly swell our catalogue of diseases. Enteritis and gastritis were very frequent during the summer months, and still present themselves to our observation. A case of chronic hepatitis, as dissection proved it to be, exhibited a large hard tumour

in the left hypochondrium, in a child two years of age. Previous to the child's death,\* the disease was supposed to be enlargement of the spleen. What is worthy of remark in this case is, that there was no tumour or tension, or tenderness in the right hypochondrium.

### SURGICAL REPORT.

The surgical diseases of children in the Dispensary, during the three preceding months, have been, with few exceptions, of the usual nature and character.

Glandular disease is still, and probably always will be, a prevailing attendant on indigent infancy. If this may not be accounted for by the natural efforts exerted by the system, to determine a progress outwards, of morbid attacks on the lungs, intestines, and other important viscera, the result of exposure and other causes, at least there is an evident and intimate connexion between the glands and viscera; and as an indu-

\* The child was afterwards attacked with pneumonia, and died of it.

rated gland is, we know, in very many instances, an indication of internal disease, it frequently depends on us to suffer it to remain merely an indication, or to co-operate with nature in the process she seems to intend, though she has not the power to fulfil, and enable it to become a means of cure for that disease.

Numerous cases of ophthalmia of different species have been admitted; one, combined with pseudo-syphilitic eruptions and slight iritis. The complaint in this child was congenital; and as the mother, at the time it was admitted, had secondary symptoms, the infant was weaned, and by the regular administration of hydr. submur. for three weeks, it soon became convalescent.

Several cases of phymosis have been presented, all yielding to the usual treatment, but one, which, on account of its severity, and fatal termination, may perhaps merit a short description. This complaint occurred in a boy of three years old, on the sudden recession of the eruption of rubeola: immediately afterwards the prepuce was observed to be much elongated, and painful to

the touch : the effusion into the cellular membrane increased, the integuments became of a deep red colour, and the symptoms, according to the report made to me, had been exceedingly aggravated for several days, by the employment of stimulating applications to the part, and the rejection of any antiphlogistic treatment. At this period the patient was brought to the Dispensary ; and the appearance exhibited in the part, was that of erysipelas phlegmonodes in its last stage. The prepuce was much discoloured, and its length at least three inches.

At the origin of the penis there was a distinct white line of demarcation, indicating an approaching slough. This process went on, in spite of every effort to prevent it, so as completely to divide the ligamentous connection of the crura with the ossa ischii and pubis. Convulsions were frequent, the abdomen became tense, the inguinal glands sympathetically enlarged : the sloughing extended to the scrotum, and the child died on the tenth day after its admission.

There is scarcely any kind of inflammation which requires so prompt a treatment, as this

species of erysipelas, as it so speedily assumes the gangrenous character; besides, in its first stage it is tractable by the antiphlogistic plan, leeches, incision, &c.

There is an affection sometimes observed attacking the pudenda of female infants, (on its first appearance, bearing the simple character of intertrigo,) which seems somewhat analogous to the foregoing case. Among many cases on record, the only fatal instance was one, where stimulants were exclusively applied.

A case of fistula lachrymalis, in a girl five years old, was presented, in which the incision of the sac and injections of warm water have so far succeeded, that the tears now pass into the nose, a very slight epiphora only remaining.

A girl of four years old had an arrow shot into the right eye, which penetrated the cornea, wounded the iris, and burst the crystalline capsule. Staphyloma was the consequence. At the time she applied at the Dispensary, three days after the accident, the iris protruded with the edge of the lens, and there was incipient adhesion.

The patient was regular in attendance for a fortnight, by which time the inflammation was subdued, and absorption of the lens had commenced, but the belladonna did not succeed in preventing obliteration of the pupil by adhesion.

Some cases of abscess under the scalp, under the chin, and in the axilla, have been admitted: and one of abscess of the elbow joint, accompanied by sinusses, which for some time discharged a gelatinous fluid (probably synovia) mixed with pus. The cartilages were abraded, there was intense pain on the slightest motion of the joint, and the boy seemed rapidly declining. He immediately began taking the cinchona, twice a day; and a lotion of liquor calcis, and liq. ammon. acet. was applied to the elbow. He soon began to improve under this plan, and is now able to walk to the Dispensary regularly. The sinusses have nearly ceased to discharge, there is little pain on motion, and the arm has recovered a considerable power under the unavoidable condition of ankylosis.

One curious case of ranula was admitted. It was of a peculiar whiteness, resembling a globular

pearl, and contained a gelatinous fluid. A slight puncture discharged the fluid, the cyst instantly collapsed, and no trace could be discovered of it subsequently.

Cases of hernia congenita; injuries of the radius, tibia, and clavicle; diseased spines; cases of sinuous ulcers, and of puriform discharges from the ear, &c. have been admitted into the Dispensary, and are yielding to the usual plans of treatment.

*A List of the Cases admitted under the Care of the Physicians of the Universal Dispensary for Children, St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors' Commons, between December 31, 1819, and March 25, 1820.*

Diseases.		Diseases.	
	No. of Cases.		No. of Cases.
* Synochus - - - -	50	‡ Phrenitis - - - -	10
Febris Catarrhalis - -	15	Convulsio - - - -	17
† Hydrocephalus Acutus	10	Gastritis - - - -	13
————— Chronicus	8	Enteritis - - - -	13

\* Under this head are included the cases of fever termed by some Practitioners “febris gastrica.”

Synochus is not often contagious in children. It commences with synocha, and occasionally terminates in typhus. Then it is that it becomes contagious. Functional derangement of the viscera of the abdomen is generally accompanied, when considerable, with fever of this character. Synochus is, in fact, the more general form of fever in children.

† This disease does not appear to be so frequently idiopathic as has been supposed.

‡ A very common disease in children under three years of age.

|| Frequently mistaken for gastric irritation, with slight pyrexia. Phlegmonoid inflammation of the stomach is perhaps rather rare, but erythematic inflammation very common.

Diseases.		Diseases.	
	No. of Cases.		No. of Cases.
* Pneumonia - - - -	40	Icterus - - - -	7
Pertussis - - - -	70	Erysipelas - - - -	8
Morbilli - - - -	22	Erythema - - - -	6
Cynanche Tonsillaris -	10	Urticaria - - - -	2
—— Scarlatina - -	9	Varicella - - - -	4
Tussis cm. Pyrexia - -	29	Purpura - - - -	2
Coryza Maligna - -	2	Ecthyma - - - -	1
Dysentery - - - -	14	Rupia - - - -	2
Diarrhoea - - - -	32	Lichen - - - -	2
† Cholera Morbus - -	21	Papulæ - - - -	8
Hæmoptysis - - - -	2	Strophulus - - - -	10
Hæmatemesis - - - -	1	Apthæ - - - -	9
Rheumatismus - - - -	2	Psoriasis - - - -	3
Epilepsia - - - -	2	Herpes - - - -	11
Chorea Sti. Viti - -	6	Scabies - - - -	20
Cephalalgia - - - -	8	Porrigio - - - -	40
Hepatitis Chronica - -	4	Anasarca - - - -	1
Paralysis - - - -	4	Hæmaturia - - - -	1
Tormina - - - -	3	Rachitis - - - -	8

\* Of all the diseases of children, this is one of the most frequent and most fatal. Idiopathic pneumonia, and pneumonia supervening on other acute diseases, occurs extensively at almost every season.

† Cholera morbus is subject to great variation, as to being an idiopathic affection.

N.B. In future the cases will be made out in the order of the "Nosological Arrangement."

Diseases.		Diseases.	
	No. of Cases.		No. of Cases.
Dysuria - - - - -	1	Lumbrici - - - - -	2
Colica - - - - -	2	Ascarides - - - - -	16
Gastrodynia - - - - -	13	Tænia - - - - -	4
Enterodynia - - - - -	14	Phthisis - - - - -	3
Ascites - - - - -	1	Surgical Cases - - - - -	103
Dyspepsia - - - - -	21		
Tabes - - - - -	13		
Odontalgia - - - - -	3		
		Total	758

## MEDICAL REPORT.

Synochus was the prevalent fever of the winter months. It was frequently connected with inflammation of the brain, which in a great many instances appeared to be the primary affection; as acute pain in the head, flushed countenance, vomiting, and slight redness of the conjunctiva, came on simultaneously, with pyrexia. In other cases, synochus developed itself with functional derangement of the liver, and intestines, whilst the brain was but little disturbed. Nor was it unusual for the functions of the brain and abdominal viscera to participate at the same time in symptoms indicative of inflammation with fever of the character of synochus. The patients,

however, for several days before pyrexia declared itself, were languid and irritable, their countenances sunk and contracted; they were restless, took food with repugnance, and rejected it; the lips were dry, the tongue was furred, and the skin flabby. Then succeeded headach, gastrodynia, enterodynia, chills, and paroxysms of fever. After continuing in this state for three or four days or a week, the patients were attacked with synochus modified in different subjects, in the manner described. No case of typhus was brought to the institution during this season: and as the spring approached, the cases of fever were still of the nature of synochus, but evidently partook more of the bilious character, having, as an accompaniment, either severe bilious vomiting, or diarrhœa.

By far the most fatal disease of the winter months was Pertussis. It attacked children of every age with the greatest severity; and it rarely happened that a child passed through all its stages without experiencing, at some or other period, pneumonia, ardent pyrexia, convulsions, or a long train of distressing symptoms, the result of a general functional derangement of the

thoracic and abdominal viscera—symptoms which always protracted the term of recovery to an unusual length, gave an obstinacy to the disease not commonly met with, and in numerous instances placed the patient's life, from some sudden and unexpected aggravation, in a few hours, in a state of danger from which no subsequent treatment could recall it. Pertussis, pneumonia, and convulsions, in accompaniment with a degree of phrenitis, frequently co-existed, and constituted a mass of disease for which no effectual remedy could be found, and which plainly manifested the propriety of adopting active and vigorous measures in the early treatment of so formidable an infanticide. Children from two months to ten years of age were indiscriminately attacked; but those under two years had the disease, as usual, in the most severe manner. Several however died about that age, whilst many infants three months old survived.

It appears by the catalogue of diseases, that besides synochus and pertussis, there was an influx of other acute affections: pneumonia, morbilli, enteritis, cynanche tonsillaris, phrenitis, cynanche scarlatina, erysipelas, febris catarrhalis,

dysentery, gastritis, and hydrocephalus, all appeared in the course of the winter. Most of the cases of hydrocephalus were combined with inflammation of the thoracic and abdominal viscera, and generally ended unfavourably. Idiopathic phrenitis, on the contrary, by very active means employed at first, was successfully treated.

In the beginning of March, cholera morbus, with gastritis and enteritis, became frequent and extremely severe. Some children died, a few hours after the attack, convulsed. In this month, pertussis grew milder, as did morbilli. It is singular, that in so severe a winter as the last, tracheal affections among children were rare; whilst epidemical catarrh committed extensive ravages, by quickly bringing on pneumonia, and all its consequences. Several cases of chronic hepatitis were admitted. From the extensive enlargement of the left lobe of the liver in two or three of these patients, the hypochondrium was remarkably distended and hard, the tumour, filling it reaching up beneath the ribs, and descending as low as the spine of the ilium, so as to convey the idea of an enlarged spleen. Two children who laboured under this disease were

under one year of age: both were sallow and hectic when admitted; and, after lingering three or four months, died, ultimately under the combined influence of this disease and pneumonia. In another child, recently received into the Institution, there is a similar enlargement in the left hypochondrium. There is a good prospect of this child's recovery.

Jaundice, in children from one to two years of age, was among the diseases of the season. It was generally followed by a tedious functional derangement of the whole of the chylopoietic viscera; not unfrequently by *tabes mesenterica*: acute rheumatism appeared in two instances; ophthalmia, in connexion with glandular disease, in many instances. Several cases of chorea St. Viti and epilepsy occurred; and a long list of dyspeptic affections, combined often with rickets, mesenteric disease, and colliquative diarrhœa. A peculiar case of hæmatemesis also came under notice, in a boy ten years of age, who invariably rejects florid blood from the stomach each time of going to stool. This affection has continued three months; but the boy's health does not decline.

## SURGICAL REPORT.

The extreme and immediate benefit generally resulting from the discharge of matter from abscess seems to indicate its propriety, even under the most unfavourable circumstances. The most convincing instance of this occurred in a child, who was the subject of three extensive abscesses, under the fascia lata, communicating with the psoæ, the right shoulder, and the left ankle. There was incessant cough, convulsions were frequent, and the hectic state was rapidly advancing. The tumours were repeatedly punctured by a small hydrocele trochar, and upwards of twelve ounces of pus, at different times, evacuated; the integuments were tightly strapped; and very little medicine was given. The improvement was immediate after the first operation, and the child was discharged perfectly recovered.

Scrofula is so general a term, and exhibits itself in so many shapes, that it is difficult to decide exactly what disease is, or is not, allied to its nature. Of this doubtful character, appear to

be glandular enlargements, of which many cases have been admitted. The appearance, modes of living, &c. of the patient, will not always assist us in our diagnosis. The tumour will proceed rapidly to suppuration in some emaciated and apparently strumous constitutions; in others, on the contrary, of a healthy appearance, it will assume a languid disposition, or continue stationary for some considerable space of time. Suppurations of the cervical glands are commonly the most difficult to heal, principally owing to muscular action. Little benefit appears to have been derived from the application of leeches to an indurated absorbent gland, however early the plan may have been adopted.

Among the most complete cases of struma is a boy, admitted first with indolent ulcerations on the thigh: they were cellular-membranous, discharged a thin ichor, and their orifices were fistulous. The certain metastasis of scrofulous inflammation could not be more exemplified than in this case; the skin, cellular membrane, vertebræ, tarsi, and testicle, having been alternately attacked. The epididymis of the right testicle is now healing from an abscess formed in it. Du-

ring its progress, the discharge in the thigh ceased, but is now returning. There is an appearance of fatuity in the child, which warrants a suspicion of cerebral participation in the disease.

Several cases of incurvation of the spine have been admitted, generally accompanied with glandular disease in the abdomen, emaciation, pyrexia, and other scrofulous symptoms. Phosphate of lime has been administered in those instances in particular, which seemed to indicate a want of disposition to earthy structure; but its effects in various doses were such as not to warrant any substantial recommendation. Two cases of confirmed disease of the hip-joint have been presented.

Several children, with congenital hernia, attend at the Dispensary. In one instance, the testicles were not in the scrotum; but that of the tumefied side could be distinctly felt below the ring with the protruded viscera. The testicle seemed to suffer partial strangulation, and to have formed some close adhesion with the peritonæum, as it intimately followed the viscera on their return into the abdomen. Their adhesion might pro-

bably impede the action of the gubernaculum in directing the descent. Three cases of severe inflammatory affection of the ear have occurred: in one there was a suppuration between the auricle and mastoid process, bursting into the meatus, and followed by the growth of fungus in that canal. Small doses of calomel, with the injection of lotio sulphat. zinci, effected the cure in a fortnight. In another, which was followed by a sanious discharge, acute pain, pyrexia, and loss of hearing, there was a suppuration of the tympanum and ulceration of the membrane, although no air passed out at the meatus during inflation, when the nose and mouth were closed. This circumstance, however, is no proof of the soundness of the membrane. Tonics have been of much benefit, combined with calomel, and local applications, where hæmorrhage has occurred to any extent. A degree of paralysis of the lower limbs has appeared in some children, generally during dentition. In these cases, as in most of the other symptomatic affections of dentition, incision of the gums is the only treatment necessary.

Cases of erysipelas phlegmonodes of the face have been presented; one from the irritation of

a very minute suppurating wart, extending over the whole face and neck. Suppuration will seldom occur if the disease is carefully treated with laxatives and evaporating lotions.

Two cases of ecthyma have been admitted: one on the labia of an infant; the other (ecthyma luridum,) attacking the scrotum of a boy, and extending across the perinæum, and round the verge of the anus, is attended by occasional hæmorrhage and considerable prostration of strength. The first is now perfectly cured by the use of sarsaparilla, &c. ; the other is improving under the same treatment. The scabs in the last case have more the appearance of rupia; but it is evidently pustular, and not vesicular. This is, however, of no importance in a practical point of view.

Cases of abscess, porrigo favosa, psoriasis, ulceration at the edge of the rectum, from ascarides, &c. ; hydrocele, phymosis, exomphalos, ophthalmia, distortions, injuries of the joints, &c. have been, and are at present, under treatment at the Dispensary.

*A List of Diseases admitted under the care of the Physicians of the Universal Dispensary for Children, from March 25th 1820, to October 1st following, classed after a Nosological Arrangement of Diseases in Children, Acute and Chronic, according to the situation of parts—known or presumed; adopted by Dr. John B. Davis, in his Lectures on that branch of the Practice of Medicine which relates to the Diseases and Medical Management of Children and Young Persons.*

## DISEASES

Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the  
Head and Face.

ACUTE.		CHRONIC.	
Phrenitis - - - - -	19	Cephalalgia - - - - -	15
Hydrocephalus Acutus - -	24	Hydrocephalus chronicus -	15
Convulsio - - - - -	5	Epilepsia - - - - -	6
Chorea - - - - -	7	Paralysis - - - - -	8
Odontalgia - - - - -	14	Convulsio - - - - -	22
Cynanche Parotidæa - -	2	Chorea - - - - -	2
	<hr/> 71	Amentia - - - - -	2
			<hr/> 70

## DISEASES

Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the  
Fauces, Larynx, and contiguous parts.

ACUTE.		CHRONIC.	
Cynanche Tonsillaris - -	26		
Trachealis - - - - -	3		
Catarrhus - - - - -	28		
Coryza Maligna - - -	2		
Aphtha - - - - -	20		
	<hr/> 79		

## DISEASES

Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the  
Trachea and Thoracic Viscera.

ACUTE.		CHRONIC.	
Tussis - - - - -	98	Dyspnœa - - - - -	2
Pertussis - - - - -	90	Phthisis - - - - -	10
Pneumonia - - - - -	101	Palpitatio Cordis - - - - -	3
Pleuritis - - - - -	5		<hr/> 15
Hydrothorax - - - - -	1		
Hæmoptysis - - - - -	4		
	<hr/> 299		

## DISEASES

Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the  
Abdominal Viscera.

ACUTE.		CHRONIC.	
Cholera - - - - -	48	Dyspepsia - - - - -	40
Gastritis - - - - -	10	Atrophia - - - - -	4
Hepatitis - - - - -	3	Tabes - - - - -	50
Enteritis - - - - -	19	Vermes - - - - -	58
Splenitis - - - - -	1	Icterus - - - - -	7
Diarrhœa - - - - -	85	Tormina - - - - -	15
Dysenteria - - - - -	17	Ascites - - - - -	9
Vomitus - - - - -	5	Tympanites - - - - -	2
Hæmatemesis - - - - -	1	Gastrodynia - - - - -	27
Hæmorrhagia Intestinorum - - - - -	1	Colica - - - - -	18
	<hr/> 190	*Enterodynia - - - - -	46
			<hr/> 274

\* Many of these degenerated  
into Enteritis.

## FEBRILE DISEASES.

Without Eruptions.

## FEBRILE DISEASES

With Eruptions.

## PHLOGOSIS.

Synocha - - - - -	10	Scarlatina - - - - -	50
Synochus - - - - -	*114	Rubeola - - - - -	70
Febris intermittens - - -	1	Urticaria - - - - -	4
Hectica vel Chronica Re-		Erysipelas - - - - -	4
mittens - - - - -	17	Erythema - - - - -	29
Pyrexia - - - - -	**76	Varicella - - - - -	18
	<hr/>	Purpura - - - - -	2
	217	Strophulus - - - - -	26
			<hr/>
			179

\* N.B. Of these are 20 cases, termed Febris Gastrica, by Dr. Addison.

\*\* Thirty-six of these Cases were from Dentition.

## DISEASES

Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the Osseous System.

## ACUTE.

## CHRONIC.

Rachitis - - - - -	6
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## DISEASES

Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the Urinary Organs.

## ACUTE.

## CHRONIC.

Dysuria - - - - -	4
Incontinentia Urinæ - - -	3
Hæmaturia - - - - -	5
	<hr/>
	12

## DISEASES

Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the  
Lymphatic System.

ACUTE.	CHRONIC.
	Anasarca - - - - - 7
	Scrophula - - - - - 15
	<hr/> 22

## DISEASES

Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the  
Ligaments.

ACUTE.	CHRONIC.
Rheumatismus - - - - - 8	

## DISEASES

Principally seated in the Skin.

WITHOUT PYREXIA.

## CHRONIC.

Lichen - - - - - 7	Porrigo - - - - - 97
Impetigo - - - - - 5	Intertrigo - - - - - 10
Ecthyma - - - - - 14	Pityriasis - - - - - 1
Scabies - - - - - 36	Herpes - - - - - 18
Eczema - - - - - 10	<hr/> 194
Rupia - - - - - 10	
Psoriasis - - - - - 6	

Total Number of Cases - - - - - 1703

\* Surgical Cases - - - - - 60

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1763

\* See list of Surgical Cases, page 572.

## MEDICAL REPORT.

The ordinary form of fever in the patients at the Dispensary during the spring and summer of 1820, was synochus: differing little in its duration, severity, and modifications from the synochus of other seasons. Functional derangement at one time appeared most predominant, in the liver, at another time in the stomach and head, and now and then in the stomach, intestines, liver and brain, all simultaneously participating in the disease. Although it is true that pyrexia seemed in many instances to be a primary symptom of this fever, yet, in by far the greater majority of cases, languor, anorexia, gastrodynia, enterodynia, cephalalgia, weariness and dejection preceded. Thus, the rudiments, if the expression may be allowed, of synochus existed many days previous to the developement of pyrexia. The brain participated in a very marked degree in the visceral derangement connected with synochus.

What has been termed bilious remitting fever of children, appears to the Reporter to be, more strictly speaking, synochus biliosa. The pyrexia

in this disease is ardent and continued, undergoing slight irregular exacerbations, but still preserving the type of continued fever. This is in its extended and numerous modifications the common fever of every season, particularly of the spring and autumn. To enter into a discussion on the peculiar nature of this fever would exceed the limits of a mere report. If it be not the result of diminished vital energy from vitiated secretions in the brain, followed by vitiated secretions in less noble organs, a further consequence of that diminished energy, the brain is an organ essentially disordered in synochus. Pain, frequently very acute pain, with stupor, confusion of thought, and vertigo are constant attendants on synochus: and not only indicate congestion in the brain, but irregularity of circulation, and a secretion unfit for supplying the necessary vital energy. That there is a something in fever, antecedent to the more evident phenomena which are presented to the practitioners notice, there cannot be a doubt. Venous congestion, or inflammation are most probably not causes, but consequences, and of course insufficient to solve the problem of the origin of fever.

The task assigned to the Reporter of these pages is merely a short description of the prevalent character of fever among children—of the organs apparently the most deranged in connection with pyrexia ; and so natural does this form of fever (synochus) seem to be to children, that it is even in frequent accompaniment with enteritis, gastritis and hepatitis.

In comparison with synochus, the cases of synocha are very few. This fever is usually combined with teething, measles, and scarlatina. Even the fever combined with pneumonia, verges oftener to synochus than synocha : so general seems to be its occurrence.

Although under the head of gastritis, but few cases are recorded, during a period of five months, yet, numerous were the instances of this disease. The approach of gastritis erythematica is often slow and insidious, being frequently preceded for days by gastrodynia with slight pyrexia and occasional vomiting, which are taken for a slight functional derangement of the stomach, and not at first paid much attention to. The pyrexia gradually increases till it becomes considerable,

the vomitings are urgent and recur often, the epigastric region becomes tense and extremely susceptible to the touch, slight pressure thereon creating vomiting and acute pain. In this state, the patient's bowels are confined; and then, on a sudden, cholera morbus supervenes. Now the head becomes painful; symptoms of pressure on the brain come on, and convulsions succeed. In this variety of gastritis, the inflammation is probably confined, at least at first, to the mucous membrane of the stomach. Between gastritis erythematica, and cholera morbus, it is not easy always to draw a distinction. In reality, perhaps, little or no difference exists between them. Phlegmonoid inflammation of the stomach is a rare disease in children in comparison with gastritis erythematica: but this, the Reporter has no doubt occurs oftener than is generally imagined. Numerous cases of gastrodynia with pyrexia, under the head of gastrodynia in the preceding catalogue of diseases, might with strict accuracy be classed under gastritis erythematica. In the same way also may many of the cases under the head of enterodynia be referred to enteritis. In the progress of the former, inflammation of the bowels, in a greater or a less de-

gree, develops itself; and this occurs when the bowels are confined, and also when they are under the influence of diarrhœa. Portions of the intestines inflame, become strictured, and inclose scybala: whilst other portions are, at the same time, unusually dilated, and pour out a copious secretion of a highly vitiated character.

Idiopathic enteritis is however a very frequent disease, and although obstinate constipation is an ordinary attendant upon it, diarrhœa does in some instances exist, from its commencement to its termination, at different periods, of its progress, as the vomiting, acute pain and extreme tenderness experienced on pressing the abdomen, pyrexia, and cold perspirations sufficiently prove. Many children, seven, eight, and nine years of age were the subjects of well marked enteritis in the course of the last four months, as were some others under the age of two years.

Throughout the spring and summer, pneumonia visited children with great severity, in its idiopathic form, in accompaniment with, and as a sequel of measles, and as a sequel also of protracted catarrh. Often were its terminations

fatal. Nor will this appear extraordinary, when it is represented that by far the greater number of cases admitted into the Institution were far advanced; and of that nature, in which it was to be inferred from the urgency of the symptoms, that condensation of the lungs and effusion into the bronchiæ had actually taken place.

But, a very common disease of the summer months was phrenitis. Nor was it confined to infants at the breast, or children under two years of age. Several healthy boys and girls of eight, ten, and twelve years of age were suddenly attacked with this disease. It was ushered in by severe pains in the head, vomiting, ardent pyrexia, intolerantia lucis, and flushed face. In the course of the complaint, raving delirium came on, and the patients uttered frequent screams: jactitation manifested general suffering; and an involuntary tossing of the arms up to the head, and placing them thereon, indicated the acute nature of the pain in that cavity. The pulse peculiar to hydrocephalus was wanting in phrenitis, and the progress of the latter was frequently more rapid than the progress of the former. In the first stage of phrenitis the bowels were usually

constipated : but readily yielded to the influence of mild purgatives at any subsequent period.

At the end of seventeen days from the attack, the Reporter visited a boy about nine years old, in Angel Court. He found him exceedingly extenuated with high pyrexia, under general jactitation of the whole body, with motions, apparently involuntary, of the arms and legs, which were tossed up and down with considerable force. He seldom ceased from screaming for more than eight or ten minutes in succession ; and was either under the influence of violent delirium, or coma. For the sake of security to himself and his friends it was found necessary to confine his arms and legs, and fasten him to the bed. Upon the application of a pretty strong light, the pupils contracted slightly. The patient's pulse was rapid and very feeble : his bowels regular. He had already been subjected to very active treatment ; to profuse depletion from local bleedings and purgatives. Evacuants did not appear then to be called for. The Reporter ordered the head to be covered with a large blister, and prescribed for him a quarter of a grain of opium and two grains of castor, with three grains of hyd.

cum. creta, to be given every evening, and twenty drops of the tinct: valerian: ammon: with mist: camph: and liq. ammon: acetat: to be taken every four hours. He persevered in this plan for a fortnight, improved under it every day, and ultimately recovered of a disease which offered little or no prospect, at one period, of ending well.

A case precisely similar to this has since occurred in a boy, living in the Old Bailey, eleven years of age. The disease had been about the same standing, when the Reporter visited him: but this patient was far more comatose than the other; his pupils were more dilated, his pulse was sunk and oppressed, his extremities cold, and countenance cadaverous. Still he screamed often, and held his head pressed firm between his hands. There was but little pyrexia. The same plan of treatment was adopted in this as in the other boy, but with little expectation of success. He died on the third day after his admission. Prior to his becoming a patient at the *Universal Dispensary for Children*, he had been a patient at the General Dispensary in Aldersgate Street.

The parents could not be prevailed upon to have the head inspected.

It is proper to add that local bleedings on the head were recommended in this case to a large extent, at the commencement of the disorder: but were, unfortunately, not carried into effect.

From the infant of six weeks of age to the child of twelve years, cholera morbus, in all its degrees, was met with. It was often evidently combined with enteritis and gastritis: and when this was not the case, obstinate diarrhœas, and dyspeptic affections with pyrexia, protracted the patient's recovery for weeks after. It was far from always being an idiopathic disease. A dyspeptic state of stomach and bowels, in some instances, seemed to be the fore-runners of it: and in others, pain and irritation in remote parts, as in the head, or on the skin, determined an attack of cholera morbus.

Among delicate children, a species of chronic cholera morbus recurring, once, in ten days, or a fortnight, was no unusual disease.

The cases of hydrocephalus acutus and chronicus were numerous, as our catalogue of diseases shews. In few seasons has scarlatina been more frequent than in the last summer. With some few exceptions, the disease has been mild. Only a few bad cases of anasarca and ascites occurred as the sequels of scarlatina. One child died of these affections combined with cough and dysenteric disease. He was hectic when admitted into the Institution. Cynanche tonsillaris has been frequent. Now and then a case of cynanche parotidœa has occurred, and occasionally a case of cynanche trachealis. Measles, so frequent and fatal in the winter have not appeared so often in the spring and summer. Neither have they been so severe. Cough and diarrhœa, the common consequences of measles neglected or mismanaged, have in some few instances, combined with hectic, destroyed a patient.

In our last report, the severity of pertussis in the winter was dwelt upon. Since then it has also continued to appear very generally: but, as is usual in the warmer months, rather in a milder form. Still, it has visited many districts of the metropolis, and the villages adjacent, during the

summer, with peculiar severity, destroying, in a few days, numbers of children at the breast, and many others up to six and seven years of age.

Diarrhœa has proved more difficult to treat this summer than is common. Never was it more general. Dysentery likewise was a frequent disease.

Erysipelas, rubeola, urticaria, erythema in all its varieties, and numerous eruptions on the skin of a pustular and vesicular kind have been noticed. Varicella has prevailed extensively: and herpes has by no means been rare.

Jaundice, chronic inflammation of the liver, and diseased spleens have been all met with since our last report. Among the chronic disorders however, dyspepsy has taken the lead in frequency. Nor have mesenteric obstructions added a little to our catalogue.

Chorea Sti. Viti, in its acute and chronic form, has been met with in several girls about ten years of age. Epilepsy in two instances only. Nu-

merous were the cases of convulsions in young children: but, as most of these were dependent upon diseases of the brain, of the thorax, or abdominal viscera, teething, and other sources of irritation, sufficiently defined to account for their occurrence, it is hardly necessary to dwell upon them under a separate head.

Acute rheumatism and severe catarrhal affections were among the diseases of July and August. At the moment of writing the present report, phrenitis, enteritis, synochus, cholera morbus, diarrhœa, pneumonia, and cynanche tonsillaris constitute the acute diseases of the season. It will be evident from this report that during the spring and autumn of 1820, children have been visited by most of the formidable diseases to which they are incident, as well as by those to which they are liable in common with adults: and, it may be added that those diseases generally assumed a very severe character.

*A List of Surgical Cases, from March 25th, 1820, to October 1.*

Tumores cervical - - -	7	Bullæ - - - - -	1
Abscessus - - - - -	10	Fract. radii - - - - -	1
Ophthalmia pustul. - - -	7	Exomphalos - - - - -	2
———— conjunct. - - -	1	Bronchocele - - - - -	1
———— purulent - - -	1	Hydrocele - - - - -	1
———— cm. irit. - - -	1	Hernia cong. - - - - -	2
Inflammatio Membranæ Sy-		Erysipelas - - - - -	1
vial - - - - -	2	Porrigo - - - - -	1
Pharyngitis cm. abscess.		Inflam. membr. syn. genu	1
from Dr. Addison - - -	1	Paralysis - - - - -	1
Contusio genu - - - - -	1	Rupia - - - - -	1
———— gastrocnem. - - -	1	Conditio ligamentosa mus-	
———— tarsi - - - - -	1	culi sterno-mastoid -	1
Spina Incurvata - - - - -	2	Syphilis a parentibus - - -	2
(Tabes Brachii) - - - - -	1	Porrigo favosa - - - - -	1
Suppuratio ang. oculi - - -	1	Pityriasis - - - - -	2
Fungus thecæ digiti - - -	1		
Prolapsus ani - - - - -	3		60

## SURGICAL REPORT.

Surgical diseases of children, (not being materially dependent on excitement, owing to vicissitudes of seasons and temperature,) exhibit nearly the same general character throughout the year. Scrophulous diseases may be considered in some

degree, an exception to this remark, being in most instances referable to the exciting cause of cold and moisture.

It is probable that struma will continue to be placed foremost on the list of surgical diseases, exhibiting itself in the greatest variety of position and structure : and it has appeared, in the cases admitted into the Dispensary, to have preserved something like a regular gradation, corresponding with the age of the patient. In infants, the absorbent glands, particularly those of the neck, are the parts visibly affected. In the succeeding ages of childhood, the vertebræ seem to be more disposed to the disease ; and in a more advanced period, the other joints, as the knee and elbow, become its seat.

In a disease of direct debility, depletion would seem to be in no degree admissible ; yet, in some cases, the application of a leech or two, together with evaporating lotions, have succeeded in reducing an enlarged gland of the neck ; but this must be done at the commencement of the disease. Laxatives should be cautiously used ; in fact, with no other view, than to prepare the bowels for

the reception of tonic remedies, among which the carbonate of ammonia has appeared to yield much benefit.

Pustules of the conjunctiva, another form of struma, have appeared in many instances; and this is an affection which, for the most part, easily gives way to small doses of calomel and rhubarb, with tepid fomentations; and where the Cornea is affected with spreading ulceration, in conjunction with cinchona, &c.

Strumous abscesses have formed in many other parts of the body: one case of abscess under the chin, was so extensive as to discharge at once one pint of pus.

Two severe cases of inflamed synovial membrane occurred, which, by means of depletion and evaporating lotions, have terminated favourably, without a fear of any unpleasant consequence.

A boy was admitted under the care of Dr. Addison, with pharyngitis, which advanced rapidly to suppuration. The tumor was so large,

as nearly to prevent deglutition, considerably obstruct respiration, and cause the velum palati to project nearly to the middle of the tongue. The muscles of the jaw were spasmodically affected. With some difficulty a lancet was introduced by the side of the velum, and the abscess opened. The severe symptoms were immediately removed, but the patient died in a few days. Dissection exhibited little evidence of the disease in the throat, but the lungs were filled with scrophulous tubercles.

A boy was presented with a *very large* hydrocele; the carbonate of ammonia, in liq. am. ac, was applied, with little hope of benefit, but the quantity of fluid is gradually diminishing.

Some cases of syphilitic ulcers, arising from infection in the parents, have been presented. In one subject, a very young infant, the pudenda were covered with deep ulcers having indurated edges. Small doses of calomel were administered, and the mother took pil. hydrarg. The ulcers rapidly assumed the healing process; and from this and analogous instances, it has appeared that the milk saturated with mercury, is the most

easy mode of introducing it into the system of the child; and so far as the infant is concerned, certainly the most eligible.

A child was brought, with one finger much enlarged, inflamed, and painful. The inflammation was rapidly extending up the hand, and the child's health began to be impaired. The disease appeared immediately after the small pox. The finger was amputated. The disease proved to be a fungous tumor, intimately attached to the theca of the flexor tendons. The bone was sound.

A fungus for a short time continued to arise from the articular cartilage, but the wound was soon healed by the application of ungt. cetacei c<sup>m</sup>. hyd. submur.

A child was, some time ago, brought from Hertford for advice, in whom there was a malformation of the urinary passage. The glans penis was impervious, and on further inspection a minute orifice was observed, about one inch below the glans, near the junction of the penis with the scrotum. It was a valvular communica-

tion, the external and internal orifices being connected by a canal of about 2-10ths of an inch in length, through which a small probe could be passed backwards into the urethra. On pressing this canal slightly with the finger during the expulsion of the urine from the bladder, the urethra did not appear distended, anterior to the misplaced passage, nor was there any appearance of distension at the end of the glans. There was no considerable obstruction to the passage of the urine. It was not discharged in a stream, owing to a want of contractile power in the false canal, but it oozed freely. This was the only, and but a slight inconvenience. Considering therefore the diminutive size of the parts, and the consequent difficulty of confining a canula in such an urethra, during the process of adhesion, the parents were advised to return with their child, and unless the case grew worse to wait till an advance in years and size might render an operation more advisable.

The other cases which have been admitted, but exhibiting no particular marks of interest, are, contusion—fracture—incurvation of the verte-

bræ—distortion—prolapsus—Exomphalos—her-  
nia—erysipelas—porrigo—rupia—bronchocele,  
&c.

*A List of Cases admitted into the Southwark Station, 14, St.  
Thomas's Street, between August 1820, and October 1st.*

Diseases.		Diseases.	
	No. of Cases.		No. of Cases.
Synochus - - - - -	36	Scarlatina - - - - -	15
Hydrocephalus Acutus -	4	Rubeola - - - - -	25
—————Chronicus	2	Lepra - - - - -	4
Ophthalmia - - - - -	6	Herpes - - - - -	6
Enteritis - - - - -	12	Erythema Nodosum - -	3
Gastritis - - - - -	2	Porrigo - - - - -	6
Diarrhœa - - - - -	40	Impetigo - - - - -	5
Tormina - - - - -	5	Ulcusculi Corneæ - -	4
Cholera Morbus - - -	10	Lippitudo - - - - -	6
Otalgia - - - - -	6	Ascarides - - - - -	26
Coryza - - - - -	9	Tænia - - - - -	8
Cynanche Trachealis -	2	Dysuria - - - - -	5
Cynanche Tonsillaris -	8	Paralysis - - - - -	5
Pertussis - - - - -	7	Abscessus - - - - -	10
Pneumonia - - - - -	28	Spina Incurv. - - - -	3
Tussis - - - - -	13	Scrophula - - - - -	12
Epistaxis - - - - -	3	Hernia Umbilicalis -	3
Urticaria - - - - -	6	———— Congenita -	3
Varicella - - - - -	10	Vaccinated - - - - -	18
Roseola - - - - -	2		376

*Admitted to October 1st, 1820. In all 376.*

Whereof have been cured and relieved	67
Have died - - - - -	11
Are upon the books and under cure	280
Have been vaccinated - -	18
	<hr/>
Total	376
	<hr/>

*Aggregate of Reports to October 1, 1820.*

From June 1816, to October 31, 1817	-	-	-	2497
----- to December 31, 1817	-	-	-	383
----- to April 1, 1818	-	-	-	370
----- to September 1, 1818	-	-	-	903
----- to December 31, 1818	-	-	-	521
----- to June 1, 1819	-	-	-	1130
----- to September 1, 1819	-	-	-	663
----- to December 1, 1819	-	-	-	673
----- to March 25, 1820	-	-	-	750
----- to October 1, 1820	-	-	-	1763
At Southwark Station to October 1, 1820	-	-	-	376
				<hr/>
				10,029
Upon the Books and under Cure	-	-	-	517
Cases not included in above Reports	-	-	-	93
				<hr/>
				10,639
				<hr/>
Total Number of Admissions	-	-	-	10,639

# NOSOLOGICAL ARRANGEMENT

OF

## CHILDREN'S DISEASES.

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*LECTURES, &c.*

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An arrangement of the diseases of children into some general system is essential both to the theory and practice of medicine in this department of science. The difficulties connected with any nosological classification are evidently considerable. If an approach only to improvement should be made by the present attempt, the writer's efforts will not have been in vain: for, notwithstanding the objections to Nosology, there is scarcely a practitioner, certainly not a scientific one, who would not, for his own convenience and satisfaction in practice, steer by some kind of arrangement, if not of others, at least of his own. He who does not, moves on in medicine with as much uncertainty, as the seaman who commits himself to the waves, without compass or chart. If our knowledge of disease in the department assigned us is as yet so limited as to preclude us from offering a more complete system

by way of guide, than the [present arrangement of diseases presents, still, if we can thereby become more familiar with the symptoms and varieties of the diseases of children, more effectually discriminate between them, and ascertain their true nature and seat, such attempt will not be without its advantages. To this we humbly aspire, under a full impression, that a classification of the diseases of children, will be as useful at the bed-side as at the lecture table. To the student, nothing can be so disastrous as an unsystematic plan of studying. Even his excellence in practice will much depend upon his early and correct classification of diseases when at the hospital. With this as the basis, he will more profitably follow nature, by patient observation and cautious inference. His enquiry will be then directed to the causes and the seat of disease, with greater accuracy and success.

With a view therefore to promote the study of infantine medicine in this Institution upon a systematic basis, the annexed outline of a “ *Nosological arrangement of diseases in children, on the simple and natural division of diseases into acute and chronic, according to the situation of parts,*

*known or presumed,*" has been published. In the course of the lectures delivered in the order of this arrangement, full considerations are entered into on the theories of the process of digestion and chylication—on the means of solution in the stomach—on the morbid affections of the functions of digestion—on the defective solution of aliment, and its improper assimilation—on the morbid affections of the milk from changes with respect to quantity and quality—and on the general pathology of the solids and fluids; besides which, physiological considerations are discussed on the mode of bringing up children—on the economy of animals in rearing their young—on the influence of habit on the infant frame—on the passions of the mind—on constitutional education—on the influence of things material on intellect—on sympathy—on sensation, perception, &c. &c.

These and many other interesting and important subjects, are severally discussed at appropriate periods, in the course of the Lectures on the Diseases of Children, which will in future be delivered at the Southwark Station in St. Thomas's Street, near Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospital.

A Nosological Arrangement of Diseases in Children, Acute and Chronic,

ACCORDING TO THE SITUATION OF PARTS—KNOWN OR PRESUMED.

Adopted by the Editor, in his Lectures on that branch of the Practice of Medicine which relates to the Diseases, and Medicinal Management of Children and Young Persons, delivered at the UNIVERSAL DISPENSARY FOR CHILDREN, St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors' Commons, and at the Southwark Station, St. Thomas's Street, near Guy's Hospital.

<div>DISEASES</div> <div>Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the Head and Face.</div>		<div>DISEASES</div> <div>Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the Fauces, Larynx, and contiguous parts.</div>		<div>DISEASES</div> <div>Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the Trachea and Thoracic Viscera.</div>	
<div>Acute.</div> <div>Phrenitis { Spontanea Symptomata</div> <div>Hydrocephalus Acutus { Spontaneus Symptomatus</div> <div>Convulsio { Cerebralis Febrilis</div> <div>Tetanus { Opisthotonicus Emprosthotonicus Symptomatus Trismus</div> <div>Chorea { Idiopathica Symptomata</div> <div>Ophthalmia { Membranarum Tarsi</div> <div>Otalgia</div> <div>Odontalgia</div> <div>Cynanche Parotidæa</div>	<div>Chronic.</div> <div>Cephalalgia { Cephalæa Hemierania</div> <div>Hydrocephalus Chronicus { Internus Congenitus Externus</div> <div>Epilepsia { Cerebralis Sympathica Occasionalis</div> <div>Paralysis { Hemiplegica Paraplegica</div> <div>Convulsio { Universalis Partialis Occasionalis Symptomata ut Stomatichæa Verminosa a Dentitione A Dolore</div> <div>Chorea { Partialis Universalis Intermittens</div> <div>Epistaxis { Idiopathica Febrilis Critica</div> <div>Amentia { Congenita A Febre A Hydrocephalo</div>	<div>Acute.</div> <div>Cynanche Tonsillaris</div> <div>Maligna { (Vide Scarlatina)</div> <div>Pharyngæa { Bullosa</div> <div>Trachealis { Idiopathica Exanthematica</div> <div>Catarrhus { Benignus Epidemicus Synocha Catarrhalis</div> <div>Coryza Maligna { Nasalis Pectoralis</div> <div>Aphtha { Benigna Maligna Nigra (vide Purpura)</div>	<div>Chronic.</div> <div>Cynanche Laryngæa Chronica { Membranacea Cartilaginosa Periodica</div>	<div>Acute.</div> <div>Tussis { Verminosa a Deutitione Stomatichæa Exanthematica Spasmodica</div> <div>Pertussis</div> <div>Pneumonia { Simplex Catarrhalis Typhoides Symptomata</div> <div>Pleuritis { Idiopathica Symptomata</div> <div>Hydrothorax</div> <div>Carditis { Idiopathica Symptomata</div> <div>Hæmoptysis { Idiopathica Symptomata</div> <div>Paraphrenitis</div>	<div>Chronic.</div> <div>Dyspnœa { Catarrhalis Siccæ Pinguedinosa Symptomata</div> <div>Asthma { Spontaneum Suffocativum</div> <div>Syncope { Cardiacæ Occasionalis Exanthematica Stomatichæa</div> <div>Incubus { Vermineus Plethoricus Stomatichæus a Pathematis a Niania Exercitatione</div> <div>Singultus</div> <div>Phthisis</div> <div>Palpitatio Cordis { Idiopathica Symptomata</div>
<div>DISEASES</div> <div>Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the Abdominal Viscera.</div>		<div>Febrile Diseases</div> <div>Without Eruptions.</div>	<div>Febrile Diseases</div> <div>With Eruptions.</div>	<div>DISEASES</div> <div>Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the Osseous System.</div>	
<div>Acute.</div> <div>Cholera { Spontanea Accidentalis Symptomata</div> <div>Gastritis { Erythematica Phlegmonodæa Symptomata</div> <div>Hepatitis</div> <div>Enteritis { Erythematica Phlegmonodæa Symptomata</div> <div>Peritonitis { Erythematica Phlegmonodæa</div> <div>Splenitis</div> <div>Diarrhœa { Sanguinea Crapulosa Colicæ Biliosa Hæmorrhæa Leucæria Symptomata</div> <div>Dysentæria { Verminosa Catarrhæa Alba</div> <div>Vomitus { Idiopathicus Symptomatus (Vide Dyspepsia)</div> <div>Hæmatemesis { Plethorica Violenta Cachectica</div> <div>Hæmorrhagia Intestinorum { Febrilis Accidentalis (Vide Purpura)</div>	<div>Chronic.</div> <div>Dyspepsia { Idiopathica Symptomata</div> <div>Atrophia { Inanitorium Famelicorum Debilium</div> <div>Tabes { Mesenterica Rachitica</div> <div>Vermes { Lumbrici Ascarides Tænia</div> <div>Ictericia</div> <div>Icterus</div> <div>Tormina { Accidentalia Ab Acidis (Vide Colicæ)</div> <div>Ascites { Strumosis Debilium Ab Exanthematis A Febre Intermittente</div> <div>Pyrosis</div> <div>Tympanites { Intestinalis Abdominalis</div> <div>Gastrodynia { Saburræalis Biliosa (Vide Dyspepsia)</div> <div>Colica { Spasmodica Ileocolicæ</div>	<div>PHLOGOSIS.</div> <div>Synocha { Spontanea Ephemera a frigore a calore Symptomata</div> <div>Synochus { Ardens Biliosa Suppurata</div> <div>Typhus { Mitior Gravior (vide Phrenitis)</div> <div>Febris Intermittens { Tertiana Quartana Quotidiana</div> <div>Remittens</div> <div>Hectica vel Chronica Remittens { Idiopathica Symptomata</div> <div>Scarlatina { Simplex Anginosa Maligna</div> <div>Rubeola { Vulgaris Variolodes Maligna</div> <div>Urticaria { Febrilis Exantemata Peisicæa Conferta Tuberosa</div> <div>Erysipelas { Phlegmonodes Edematodes Gangrenosum Infantile</div> <div>Erythema { Leve Marginatum Papulatum Tuberculatum Nodosum</div> <div>Variola { Discreta Confluens</div> <div>Varicella { Benigna Variolodes</div> <div>Roseola { Annulata Activa Automialis Infantilis</div> <div>Purpura { Simplex Hæmorrhagica</div> <div>Pemphigus { Orticæa Infantilis</div> <div>Strophulus { Interictus Albus Confertus Volaticus Candidus</div> <div>Pompholyx { Benignus Dintius Solitarius</div>		<div>Acute.</div> <div>Rachitis { Simplex Strumosa</div>	<div>Chronic.</div>
<div>DISEASES</div> <div>Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the Lymphatic System.</div>		<div>DISEASES</div> <div>Seated in, principally, or in part manifesting their effects in the Medulla Spinalis.</div>		<div>DISEASES</div> <div>PRINCIPALLY SEATED IN THE SKIN. WITHOUT PYREXIA.</div>	
<div>Acute.</div> <div>Rheumatismus</div>	<div>Chronic.</div> <div>Anasarca { Exanthematica Debilitans Vulgaris Fungax Mesenterica (Vide Tabes)</div> <div>Scrophula</div>	<div>Acute.</div> <div>Paraplegia Spinalis { Membranacea Medullaris Violenta Aquosa a spina bifida</div>	<div>Chronic.</div> <div>Convulsio Spasmus { (Vide Convulsio)</div>	<div>Chronic.</div> <div>Lichen</div> <div>Prurigo</div> <div>Impetigo</div> <div>Ecthyma</div> <div>Scabies { (cum varietatibus)</div>	<div>Chronic.</div> <div>Lepa</div> <div>Psoriasis</div> <div>Porrigo</div> <div>Tubercula</div> <div>Pityriasis</div> <div>Ichthyosis</div> <div>Herpes</div> <div>Maculæ</div>



*Pupils to the Lectures and Medical Practice at  
the Dispensary, and the Southwark Station.*

Names.	Names.
WILLIAM MARTIN	HARRY COX
JAMES NEWTON JOYNSON	THOMAS BALDEY
JOHN GRIFFITHS	CHARLES NIX
JAMES BURTON	WILLIAM WOOD
B. G. DAVIS	JOHN GOODWIN
JOHN CLARKE	WILLIAM LANGWORTHY
CHARLES WILLES	WILLIAM THOMPSON
ROBERT SCHOFIELD	THOMAS DRAWBRIDGE
W. F. REEKS	THOMAS SALT
THOMAS DRAKE	THOMAS FOSTER
J. C. HURST	JAMES ADAMS
ROBERT ATTHILL	CHARLES JOHNSON
JAMES GOOCH	WILLIAM ATKINSON
F. BROWN LLOYD	THOMAS SHORLAND
JAMES STUART NOTT	WILLIAM MORRIS
JOHN PALMER	JAMES HOLLOWAY
WILLIAM DAVIES	J. SLADE.

## A CONCISE ESSAY

*In elucidation of the Rules and Methods adopted at the Dispensary, on the Bodily Management of Children; with a view to assist in the preservation of their health, as the means of promoting their intellectual and physical improvement.*

In the Editor's investigation of some of the principal causes of mortality among children,\* an allusion has been made to the ill effects produced upon the constitution by various practices, pursued at the present day, in rearing the infant race. Here it is his intention to point out explicitly to parents, that many of those methods which are considered so essential to the successful rearing of children, are not only useless or inadequate, but, in some instances, ridiculous, and in others, interwoven with dangerous error, ill directed and incompetent cares, all more or less prejudicial to, or subversive of the health and growth of the little individual whose happiness and whose future strength and comfort, it is the object to promote. Those mothers who seek with unceasing solicitude the welfare of their children—whose joyous and delightful occupation it is to direct the tender shoot, themselves to guard the bud and blossom till the fruit is set, will, without doubt, cheerfully renounce those practices which, upon a candid consideration of their tendency, may appear erroneous, and rather calculated to defeat than to promote the end they have so anxiously in view. To those mothers whose minds are free from the tyranny of prejudice—who have the firmness to exert their own reason—who prefer to adopt, as a guide in rearing their children, the instructions which experience sanctions, to arbitrary custom, or the capricious routine

\* See his "Cursory Inquiry," published in 1817.

of the ill-informed and antiquated matron, these pages are addressed, in the confident hope of being useful. By means of a few familiar and instructive observations on the bodily education of children, all mothers who undertake the arduous task of conducting the domestic management of their family, but especially those who are without the previous knowledge required for this important purpose, will thus acquire a valuable stock of knowledge, and for the first time, probably learn, that they have entered upon a duty less easy to execute, in all its branches, than they had at first imagined. Mothers! hesitate not to combine your efforts with ours, to avert those sources of calamity to your children which have their origin in mistaken ideas of domestic management! Let us oppose the antidote with vigour to those habits and those excesses which domestic refinement has introduced to the no small detriment of the infant economy, and the perversion of the laws of nature. In combating those abuses, which inattention and indolence have given birth to, the Editor will enjoy the satisfaction of having done his duty in attempting to prevail upon every mother to perform her duty—to persuade her to undertake the gratifying task of seeking and adopting the most effectual means to prolong even her own existence, in the health and vigour of her children.

To form the constitution of a child—to lead it in the paths of health and strength, it is necessary to commence our management of it from its birth: for if it be true, that the system is influenced by the agency of external powers with which from the moment of its birth a child comes in contact—by the patrimonial inheritance of a robust or weak organization,—no reasonable person then can doubt, but by neglect and mismanagement in the first seven years of its life, the original soundness of a constitution may be destroyed, the evils of hereditary delicacy, if such exist, increased, and the

seeds of future suffering and disease too deeply sown ever after to be eradicated. Neither need he doubt that if, by care and judicious treatment, the happy organization of the strong and vigorous may be preserved, health may be imparted to those, whose sickly, feeble frames denote a deficiency of the vital energy, necessary to form a good constitution. Susceptible as children are of every impression, capable as their systems are of innumerable modifications, it is nearly at all times in our own power, by care and attention, to mould them to our mind, to educate the body and to give it that degree of physical perfection at which the standard of health and the requisites of beauty will be found.

“Children like tender osiers take the bow,  
And as they first are fashioned—so they grow.”

But it must be obvious that unless we regulate our conduct by the dictates of experience, assisted by reflection—and unless we steadily persevere in that conduct, vain will be the effort, when social customs so much conspire, as in the age in which we live, to undermine health, to realize in those dear objects our expectations and our wishes, either with respect to strength of body, or power of mind. Can it be disguised, revolting as it may be to our better feelings, that those practices which have their origin in our manners and our conduct, refined with some—debased with others—practices which luxury and effeminacy have introduced, are a true and lamentable cause of that degeneracy of the species so often met with?

Can it be denied that, on the one hand, the rigid refinement adopted among the higher orders of the community in rearing their children—a refinement evidenced in a variety of fanciful rules, scruples, cautions, and ill-advised cares, is equally at variance with good sense, and that simplicity, so conducive to the views

of nature—as, on the other hand, a total disregard of all want and rule, is, among some of the poor, from their excessive depravity—a disregard but too well marked in the uncleanness of their children, in careless usage, and the neglect of method? The questions are answered by an enquiry into the health and strength of children reared in some parts of the country, or, in regions less visited by effeminate and injurious customs than others—in mountainous and barren soils, as in the highlands of Scotland, in Ireland, in Germany, in Switzerland and in Piedmont. In those parts where luxuries are but little felt, the population is the same, the children robust and strong, of large stature and powerful. That those spots, independent of being free from the bad effects of luxury and refinement, are in themselves, from the purity of the atmosphere, highly favourable to the population—to the health and energies of the infant economy—there can be no doubt: and although large cities are an open sepulchre for the offspring of all classes of the poor in particular, into which they prematurely fall, yet, even in some of the most salubrious parts of our own healthy island, and in distant countries, where the atmosphere is pure and conducive to the highest state of health, the mortality of children is frequently great. This is an important fact, and naturally leads us to enquire what are the causes besides impure air that operate in producing such numerous deaths? A slight view of this subject, such as daily observation offers, will convince us that good air is not in itself enough to preserve the lives of those children who either carry in their constitution the seeds of disease, or the delicacy of an imperfect organization, nor where parents neglect the cares and attentions which nature requires, or pursue a course of mismanagement which systems and opinions ill-grounded have impressed upon them.

How multiplied then must be the instances in which the future man is indebted for the continuance of existence and of health to art—to system which rectifies the first deviations from a course of nature! How important that object to which these pages are devoted! It may with truth be asserted that not only the health of the child, but the bodily ability of the future man will depend upon that vigour, which is imparted to the infant frame by the judicious combination of all the means employed for the support of life and prevention of disease. In every respect perhaps, the three first years of our existence form by far the most important period of the seven ages through which we pass. In it, we encounter the severest trials and the greatest dangers. It is the period in which, in all probability, will be decided the fate of a long or a short existence, and whether that existence will be easy and pleasant, or painful and wretched. If the constitution declines under a succession of diseases incident to this age, the presumption is, that though immediate shocks may be surmounted and life go on, as a leaky vessel for a time, the duration of life will not be extended to the period of twelve years, or to puberty. Either it will cease from the weakness of the vital principle itself, during the progressive growth of the body, or, a disease will be developed, the seeds of which will spring up in every part, and oppress and overpower the functions, before the individual reaches the age of manhood. Should the body sustain the trials of this epoch—should it surmount them with impunity, then will it meet the casualties of a subsequent period with little risk. Like a rock, it will resist the waves. They may beat against it, but they cannot destroy it; for its strength is equal to the struggles which it has to encounter. The triumph is the work of nature and of art.

Be the system adopted what it may, of this fact there can be no question, that all are desirous of having their children strong and healthy, though it is not every one that has the happiness of seeing his hope realized, or that takes the proper steps for its accomplishment. That parent will have the best chance of this, who will begin to form the infant's constitution at its birth by a proper and well regulated choice of nourishment, by a selection of good air, and by the adoption of all those means which will be found detailed in these pages.

With a view to render the domestic treatment of children, in order to the preservation of their health, plain and intelligible to every mother, we shall make our instructions applicable to each period of childhood, commencing at the first epoch, which begins at birth, and terminates when the child ceases to suck, or about the end of the first year.—

With the second epoch which commences with the second year, and terminates when the child attains its fifth year.—

And lastly, with the third epoch which commences with the sixth year, and terminates at the twelfth, pursuing in this respect a division approved of by some writers of celebrity, and to whose works we have had access, in support of those maxims and opinions which are here brought into a focus for general use.

## FIRST EPOCH.

*The New Born Child.*

The first object after tying and dividing the navel string of a child, is to cleanse the bowels of the viscid matter, which they invariably contain, prior to food being administered. Nature imparts to the mother's milk for several days after birth, a peculiar property, that urges the bowels to throw off this substance: but as it frequently fails in accomplishing this, it is become a general practice, and we may add, a safe one too, to give a tea-spoonful or more of castor oil every morning and evening until the evacuations change from a dark and black, to a yellow colour. Neither ought we to consider the child as free from the risk of being attacked with pain and gripes, fever and convulsions, which will often suddenly end in death, until the whole of this dark matter is removed from the bowels. As this is often the work of many days, unless a purgative medicine be administered, it cannot be too much urged to resort to this practice without delay, most of the ailments of this early age depending upon neglect in this particular. The child's nutriment, during the first few days that this process is going on, should be of the simplest kind, and consist of a little thin gruel, or thin barley water, in addition to the mother's milk, which, whilst the child takes these liquids, ought to be given very sparingly, at least till the change mentioned above appears in the motions.

It may also be observed that if the bowels should spontaneously discharge in a few hours after birth, a dark viscid substance in abundance—should the infant swallow freely, and indicate the want of food by the motion of its lips—should it seize the end of the finger when applied to the mouth, and appear well, it may at

once be put to the mothers' nipple. If the child should appear to have an impediment to sucking, the tongue may be examined, as it is not improbable that, in this case, the bridle of the tongue may require to be divided.

In regard to re-applying the infant to the breast, the criterion is, when it shews signs of hunger, and when the breast is turgid with milk. Nor can it be too strongly impressed, that when there is a full flow of milk, and the child sucks freely, *no other food* is requisite for *at least* four months. It is usual for mothers, very frequently at the suggestion of nurses, to give cows milk, besides other kinds of aliment, to infants in addition to their own milk, with a view of making them plump and strong. This practice is however to be condemned, as it is eventually followed by an effect very different from what was intended. Instead of infants generally growing fat upon this plan, their digestive powers become weak, they grow thin, pale, and delicate: vomiting, affections of the bowels, and convulsions ensue: their bellies grow prominent, the skin is more or less covered with eruptions, they are restless, feverish, ultimately pine and fall away, and die mere skeletons. Children brought up in this manner, and whose health is sinking under such a plan, seldom retain food long on their stomach, and they are subject to an exhausting looseness though the bowels are loaded with half digested aliment. To remedy this state, the most nutritious food is administered, and the stomach, under an idea of being thereby strengthened, is rendered weaker and more irritable, so that what was intended to restore only increases the evil.

It will be evident from this but too true picture that such a mode of rearing children is incompatible with a continuance of health, and that it will not only be necessary now to resort to medical means in order to subdue the affections of the stomach, bowels and skin, but also

to renounce this plan of domestic treatment, and to substitute, for it, the simplest aliment, should any other aliment than the mother's milk be necessary; taking care, at the same time, to administer that aliment at stated periods and in small quantities. To enable the digestive powers to recover their tone, and the infant thereby to regain its health, food should not be given to a child only three or four months old, oftener than five or six times in twenty-four hours. It is important also to interpose such an interval between the meals as to allow time for the food previously administered to be digested.

*On the Susceptibility of the Senses of Infants.*

Although in children under five weeks old, the nervous system is by no means very susceptible, yet, at the end of that period, when the smile and tear express an increasing degree of sensibility, and when growth indicates that the functions are established and duly performed, they become very subject to convulsions. From this law of the infant economy, an important practical inference may be drawn. It shews that infants cannot be exposed to the influence of extremes without endangering that commotion in the nervous system, which would produce fits and sudden death.

Any violent shock imparted to the brain, through the nerves, either in health or disease, will in children promptly destroy life. From this cause it is that, in apparently slight disorders, so many infants die suddenly. Some physicians have gone so far as to say that on account of this extreme susceptibility of nerves, it is a far safer plan to wash a child when first born, or when only a few days old, in warm and not in cold water. This appears to us an unnecessary refinement; for it is a practice in many parts of the world to plunge children into cold water, from the earliest age, with success. The

sooner, in our opinions, children are accustomed to the use of a cold bath, the better. A little previous preparation may be required. It would be imprudent, in our climate suddenly to resort to it.

#### ON SUCKLING.

*This is a Mother's duty, and an Infant's Birthright.*

"Ah then, by duty led, ye nuptial fair,  
Let the sweet office be your constant care.  
With peace and health in humblest station blest,  
Give to the smiling babe the fostering breast;  
Nor, if by prosperous fortune placed on high,  
Think ought superior to the dear employ.  
Shall the lov'd burthen that so long ye bore,  
Your alter'd kindness from its birth deplore?"

"Not half a mother she whose pride denies  
The streaming beverage to her infant's cries,  
Admits another in her rights to share,  
And trusts his nurture to a stranger's care;  
But you whose hearts with gentle pity warm,  
Pure joys can please and genuine pleasures charm,  
Clasp your fair nurslings to your breasts of snow,  
And give the sweet salubrious streams to flow,  
Let kind affections sway without controul,  
And thro' the milk-stream pour the feeling soul."

In recommending a mother to become her child's nurse, we are actuated by a common interest for the health and happiness of both.

Mothers! it is a double advantage\* to take upon yourselves the august functions of maternity. An infant has numerous little wants—stands in need of many cares

\* "See Cursory Inquiry."

which a mother's eye, and a mother's heart can alone supply! The female constitution undergoes a severe, often an irrecoverable shock, from suppressing the milk. The ravages it sustains, are terrible and extensive, frequently worse than those which a second lying-in would produce. It is not a rigorous right which we presume to urge. We speak the language, and state the claims of nature. *An act we perform of justice*, for the interests of humanity—the benefit of your health, mothers—the preservation of your own attractions—the welfare of your little ones! Harken ye tender mothers,

“From whence that cry that steals upon the sense?  
 'Tis the low wail of injur'd innocence;  
 Accents unform'd, that yet can speak their wrongs  
 Loud as the pleadings of a hundred tongues.  
 See in dread witness all creation rise,  
 The peopled earth, deep seas, and circling skies;  
 Whilst conscience with consenting voice within,  
 Becomes accomplice and avows the sin.”

The touch of a child's lip produces in the heart of an affectionate mother the most delightful sentiment. She cannot observe its little engaging graces, its movements and gestures, its softness in sleep, without feeling transports of joy. There parents are impressions of tenderness for you:\* there mothers is an entertainment, an engagement for you, which surpasses every

\* “Parvulus

Matris e gremio suæ,

Porrigenas teneras manus

Dulce rideat ad Patrem

Semihiantes labello.” CATUL. EPITHAL.

other pleasure: and will you renounce them to comply with a fashionable and a cruel custom?

“O happier times, to truth and virtue dear,  
Roll swiftly on! O golden days appear!  
Of noble birth, when every matron dame,  
Shall the high meed of female merit claim;  
Then loveliest, when her babe in native charms  
Hangs on her breast or dances in her arms.  
Thus late with angel grace along the plain,  
Illustrious DEVON led Britannia's train;  
And whilst by frigid fashion unrepres't  
She to chaste transports open'd all her breast,  
Joy'd her lov'd babe its playful hands to twine  
Round her fair neck, or midst her locks divine;  
And from the fount with every grace imbued,  
Drank heavenly nectar, not terrestrial food.”

That there are instances, we are ready to admit, where a mother is compelled to renounce this her first delight, where suckling, either from extreme delicacy of constitution—from a failure of milk—from mal-conformation of the nipple, is entirely impracticable. For these mothers, a representative in a nurse is indispensable: and for such, be it our duty to make the best selection in our power. As a general guide in this respect, it may be mentioned that, when a wet nurse is agreed upon, she ought to combine good health with good manners, an agreeable look with a fine clear colour. Her breath should be sweet, and perspiration free from smell: her gums firm resembling vermillion, teeth fine, white and perfect; she ought to have an abundance of milk: her breasts should be of a moderate size, the veins plump, the nipple conical, brown and well proportioned, neither large nor small. Her milk should be white, inodorous, inclining to a sweet taste, neither watery, nor thick, of a moderate consistence, separating into a curd over a slow

fire. The next advice necessary is to urge the engaging of a strong nurse for a strong and vigorous child. She ought to be from twenty to twenty-eight years of age, mild, and sprightly, not given to fret, cleanly in her person and her habits, neither timid, nor passionate, of regular bowels. A wet nurse's food should be plain and simple, and her digestion good. Broths, plain roast and boiled meat, vegetables, rice, plain and suet puddings, may all in turn be allowed. She may drink milk and water, barley water, rice water, gruel, and toast and water at pleasure. Rather less than a pint of ale, or a whole pint of porter daily will be an abundant supply of strong beverage for a wet nurse. Should she not drink either of these articles, and appear exhausted from the child's sucking, two glasses of wine diluted with water would be desirable. She should take moderate exercise: but fatigue, like inactivity is equally to be avoided.

It is not sufficient for a wet nurse to possess all these qualities merely at first. She must have them all the time she gives suck. It will therefore be expedient for a medical man to see her occasionally, to inspect her milk, her tongue, and her complexion, and to make enquiries into the general state of her health. We would recommend the interdicting a wet nurse from sleeping twelve hours, out of twenty-four, or lying in bed all that time. Long sleep is ever prejudicial, and succeeded by heaviness, languor, and nervous debility; states of constitution which are just the reverse of those that a wet nurse ought to possess. Gaiety of disposition, and activity of body should appear uppermost in her demeanor upon every occasion. In the event of a nurse becoming pregnant, her milk will undergo a change, and not be proper for the infant. The alternative then is to wean the child, or to procure another breast of milk. The latter is for the most part, and not without reason, considered an evil: but, a greater evil still, is to continue with a breast of milk, which has been altered

in its properties from pregnancy, disease, or even accident. Wet nurses are very apt to conceal this state from a fear of being discharged: but, when a child grows pale, its flesh becomes flabby, and it falls away, it will be prudent, should any suspicion of that kind attach, either to wean the child, or change the wet nurse.\*

\* We are led in this place to digress from our immediate subject in order to offer a few hints upon the expediency of rearing women systematically to the art of nursing lying-in women, and of rearing children. No female ought to be confided in for these important callings, who has not first been taught her art, by a person capable of giving proper instructions. Instead of a female of this description, the nursery contains some old, bigotted matron, ignorant and despotic in her sphere, to the injury of our wives and children, and to the disgrace of humanity. If ladies would for their own sakes discountenance the employment of the self-conceited and the aged nurse, younger and better informed women would soon step forward to supply their place. The infirmity of age, even where skill and experience combine to recommend it, is a sufficient exclusion. In fact, only active women, of good conduct and morals, regularly brought up to their business by the experienced and approved nurse, should be deemed eligible, and admitted to so important and honourable a post: and not then, without producing a certificate of qualification from a professional man. This is the more necessary when we reflect that young married women are generally unacquainted with the duties of a mother, and receive the elements of their education, on this subject, from some confidential dame, whose chief merit as a nurse probably is, her long acquaintance with the family, and her knowledge of all the errors and absurdities which good sense would wish to see exploded. One of the causes of the mortality among children is, we have no doubt, the officious and blameable conduct of nurses. One of the ways therefore of preserving individuals to the state—of obviating lameness and premature infirmity in the population, would be to give a course of education to the nurses who are first entrusted with the care and management of our children. Would it be derogatory for mothers to instruct their

*On the Dress of Young Children.*

One of the principal errors in nursing children, on which it is our duty to remark, is over-clothing them. When we state that some diseases and severe affections, have their source in early infancy in too warm and too heavy clothing, we strictly adhere to a fact, unfortunately but too often verified. Nor does the error consist only in the quantity of clothes; but, in the partial and improper pressure they are made to produce on the body and the limbs from the method in which they are put on. It is absurd to suppose (but such is the general belief) that a young infant can scarcely be kept too warm.

Nurses feel it a part of their duty to bind infants up with thick rollers, flannels, pilches, and wrappers, all curiously tightened with numerous strings and pins, to the no small annoyance and misery of the child. Should it be desirable to see the body of a child, it is not an easy matter, dressed in this mode to obtain a sight of it. Before this can be accomplished, you have to wade through as much linen and flannel as, in point of weight, is equal to the weight of the child's body; and what is the consequence of wrapping the child in this prodigious quantity of clothes? Why, as it advances in growth, it continually makes efforts to disentangle itself from prison. If it fails in this effort, it cries as long as it has strength to do so. From a repetition of this exertion, it at length experiences fatigue and exhaustion, and then it is ill. It is in the next place obvious that a child becomes tender from wearing so many clothes, and is ultimately so susceptible of cold, from this cause, that if at the end of a few weeks, it be exposed to the air, it will commonly be laid

grown up daughters in this important business: and thus, commence a plan for the eradication of a barbarous ignorance, which inflicts so many evils on humanity?

up with cough, fever, or a bowel complaint. The quantity of clothes therefore, as usually put upon a young child is to be reprobated both on account of the inconvenience from the weight, and the retention of too much heat. The degree of tightness with which they are applied also demands our attention. If a roller be wound tight round the body, or the clothes be tied tight, it is not possible for the bowels to perform their office, the circulation through them will be impeded, and obstruction the result.

Rollers are often pressed so hard upon the stomach as to impede digestion, and excite vomiting and fits. So far from binding children up in this way, we would let their dress be light, loose, and cool. Observe the pleasure a child experiences as soon as it is taken out of the fetters in which it is bound. It instantly ceases crying; no sooner is it undressed, than it begins to smile, and to shew signs of joy. The bowels will often act at this moment, which is another proof of the relief it experiences. Even though it should be hungry now, it proves by its joy and its movements that it wanted liberty still more than the breast. Bandage it up again, it becomes uneasy; its countenance is sad, and its cries are renewed.

Give us leave to ask you, mothers, whether a nurse will attend to these little wants like yourselves? Will they study to find out the cause of the child's uneasiness? How wide is the difference between bearing hardship, and being in sickness!! Well it is that children are capable of enduring a great deal of the former. If they were not, very few indeed, we fear, would be free from the latter! How few of those infants, among the very poor, of those unhappy objects of neglect and misery would survive!

The limbs that are confined, are neither plump nor strong. If the legs, feet and knees be not left at liberty

to be stretched, at all times, in their proper and natural direction, they will grow crooked, and the flesh will become flabby. The limbs that are not used, never can be strong. Nature demands the exercise of them.

*Proper Dress for an Infant.*

Put next the body, a soft dry linen shift; and over this a flannel waistcoat without sleeves, made to fit the body. Carry it loosely round it, and tie it behind. To this let a petticoat be sewed, and over it, put a gown of some thin kind of muslin or cotton. The petticoat ought not to exceed the length of an infant's legs and feet; the gown only should be two or three inches longer. Should the cap be close and thick, one will be enough: but if it be thin, and open at the top, two caps will be necessary. Let them however be so put on, as to cover the head completely. Explode every other kind of dress. This is all that will be necessary. Nature neither requires a bandage for the head, nor the body. They will both keep in their proper situation, unless by officiousness they are put out of it. Shoes and stockings are scarcely necessary for infants: at least, not until they begin to stand and walk about. Unless they are instantly changed each time when wetted, they are a nasty incumbrance, and not unfrequently prove one of the means of retarding children from standing and walking, until after the usual period. Besides this, excoriations occur, and rashes break out upon the legs and thighs from the trickling of the wet: and prove no little torment to infants.

During the night, a thin flannel shirt should be worn, perfectly loose in every way, so as to allow the child the free use of its limbs. In very warm weather, a cotton shirt will be preferable to one made of flannel. There are several advantages attending this simple mode of dress we have described. Children are not weakened by

warmth and perspiration ; and, from having the uncontrolled use of their limbs, sooner acquire the faculty of standing and walking. In the next place, the nurse has no difficulty or trouble in putting on a light and loose dress. It is put on and taken off, in two or three minutes, which is a material advantage when it becomes necessary to change the clothes several times in the course of a day.

Such is the mode of dressing children, in many instances, that the clothes are made to press tight across the chest, not only during infancy, but when they grow up. The effect of such pressure is to contract the chest, an evil of the most serious consequence. Capable as the bones and cartilages of a young child are of being adapted to any position, it must be obvious that by great pressure, the organs beneath them will be injured. Besides destroying the beauty of the chest, disease is established by diminishing its diameter. Neither the chest of an infant, nor of a growing child, ought ever therefore to be compressed. The lungs should have room freely to dilate and contract. If they have not, a permanent difficulty of breathing or asthma, will inevitably be the result. A great number of children, among all classes, suffer under incurable diseases of the chest, which have their source in a contraction of this part ; and what is much to be regretted is, that parents frequently conceal a deformity of this kind until disease is developed. It is notorious that nurses and servants frequently produce indentations of the ribs from their roughness and ignorance in handling and nursing infants. As children grow up, this deformity is occasioned by holding *themselves* in improper postures, by the rickets, a delicacy and weakness of constitution, and by coughs of long standing, particularly the whooping-cough. Weakly young children whose legs are crooked when they first begin to walk, are very apt to have deformity of the

chest: and the only way to obviate this in the chest or even in the legs, is to prevent such children from walking much until their constitutions acquire strength.

Even when a child sits upon the knee of its nurse, or is supported in her arms, contraction of the chest will occur merely from leaning on one side. A habit of leaning laterally is soon acquired, whether the child is upon its nurses lap, in a chair, upon a table, or the ground. With what carelessness and violence do not nurse-maids toss up children? How frequently do we see them take hold of a child by the arm, near the shoulder, throw it up with one hand, and catch it on the palm of the other, till they are fatigued themselves, and the child hurt. Another variety of nursing, not less reprehensible, is throwing the child over their shoulders, and there holding it suspended by the arms, on their back—a mode of nursing which often injures the child's ribs and arms. By these practices, an infant is often seriously hurt, though the injury may escape notice at the moment. If it cries, it will be shaken, till it becomes stupified, and being at last fatigued, by this usage, falls asleep. Often a promising child, mothers, the pride and joy of your hearts, has contracted distortions, swellings and lamenesses from such treatment; many have prematurely sunk into the grave from the lingering and insidious progress of some complaint, which originated in a blow, or an accident kept secret!!

It is necessary also to forbid the custom of rocking children hard upon the knee to induce sleep. Several inconveniences are the result. Digestion is disturbed by such violent and unnatural exercise; vomitings supervene, and severe gripes occur in consequence of the milk not being properly acted upon by the stomach and bowels. If children are put to sleep in this way, it is from their senses being stunned. The only cases in which a slow and gentle motion with the knee and arm may be useful,

are those accompanied with pain and restlessness from indisposition. Then, indeed, the suffering may be so soothed, and sleep promoted. Whilst this constitutes the utility of such a practice, the former mode of resorting to it, and upon every occasion also, is its abuse. In general a child will go to sleep, if properly managed by being left in repose, and at liberty in its bed.

A slight acquaintance with the infant economy is sufficient to convince us that nature has designed that mankind should pass the early periods of infancy in a sleepy repose, because it is best calculated at this tender age to favour the growth and developement of our organs. But how different to this is the propensity of nature, when the infant passes the eighth or tenth week. It is then the reverse of what it was. The child begins to manifest restlessness and a love of motion. Symptoms of sensibility are developed. It takes pleasure in noticing its mother's caresses; and will not sleep till it has fatigued itself by activity and cries. As this is the natural order in this stage of life, it never can be reasonable to force children again back into their former state of lethargic repose by jolting and shaking them, at any time the most convenient to the nurse, till they become so stupified as to fall asleep from necessity.

Objections have been made by physicians to the teaching children to begin to walk until after the ninth or tenth month, and with considerable propriety. The hips, knees and ankles, as well as the spine, all of which sustain the weight of the body, are too weak at that age, to prevent the child from falling to one side, and from becoming deformed, especially by the projection inwards of the knee. Still, our own experience and observation convince us that it is not so much the age of the child which must guide in this respect, as its strength and ability to stand and to poise itself both when sitting and standing. If a child is capable of rising up from the

ground, and has acquired the habit of exercising its limbs with freedom and activity, and feels itself secure in its motions, it will soon teach itself to walk, and of very little consequence it seems to be, whether this readiness is shewn before or after the tenth month. At any rate, the child must not be forced. It is certainly an error to teach children to walk even with any kind of leading string. Those who use them may expect to see the child incline its body to one side, or to have one shoulder higher than the other. Besides, by resorting to this expedient, the child will be much longer before it goes alone.

### *Cleanliness.*

To suppose that more than one opinion could exist upon this subject in our age of refinement, would be a libel on its manners. Still, among some classes, nurses will endeavour to impress that clothes, and linen, in particular, too frequently renewed, weaken children, by imbibing those particles of perspiration which they say are essential to their strength and growth. This is one of those absurdities which, we trust, will not much longer occupy the mind of any female. It is quite repugnant to modern notions, and doctrines to suppose that an infant is to experience the slightest utility from retaining about its person, even for an instant, a bad smell, acidities, or moisture. On the contrary, a very frequent change of clothes and linen is of the utmost importance to the preservation of the health and growth of infants.

Neither ought the utility of observing cleanliness with children be confined to their own persons, or their own clothes. The cleanliness of the nurse and the nursery is highly essential to their comfort and their health. That apartment in which children are brought up, should be one of the best, the largest, the lofliest, and

the cleanest in the house. Like the children, it should be regularly washed and cleaned twice a day: like their linen, the bed clothes and curtains\* should be changed very frequently. The instant, a spot or stain of an unpleasant nature occurred, it should be taken out, or the furniture or clothes containing it, removed. Diseases frequently arise from infected mattresses, beds, or blankets. The former are not in general so often cleaned, aired, and exchanged as they should be. The fewer the articles of furniture, of whatever description they may be, in a nursery, the better. But the room will often in appearance do credit to the nurse, whilst a closet, or a drawer will conceal many objectionable articles. The landing places, or small rooms opening into nurseries are occasionally the spots fixed upon for hoards which should be sent further off.

It is highly necessary to let cool fresh air pass freely through a nursery several times in the course of a day: but when the currents of air from the windows and doors are strong, the children should not remain in the room. But this mode of ventilating and regulating a nursery is not to supersede, as some have supposed, the free and full influence of air out of doors. From the earliest age, children should be taken into the open air, and continue in it, as much as situation and circumstances will permit, not only when they can walk, but whilst in the arms, and at the breast.

### *Diet.*

It is a fact worthy of the particular attention of every mother, that the digestive powers of young children are, like their general frames, weak and delicate: and that the perfection of the process of digestion depends in a great degree, upon the general strength and vigour of the little individual.

\* These latter should be expelled from every nursery.

When the stomach is in a healthy condition, it derives agreeable sensations from being moderately distended with food, and works with ease for the benefit of the body: but, if the distension goes beyond this point, and is suffered to be kept up day after day, with little variation, the stomach, from being vigorous at one period, will now grow languid, and labour but imperfectly to perform the functions it before accomplished with ease and comfort. Want of energy in this organ is soon followed by want of power in the intestines, and then, instead of the milk being converted into nutriment, a large portion of it is only partially digested, gripes and flatulence take place, fever, fits and other maladies which impede the growth, and impair the general health. In seeking the most effectual means for laying the basis of a sound constitution, it will be expedient to preserve from detriment and defect, the source whence all support is drawn—the laboratory where those materials are digested, which are to compose the elements of a strong and handsome fabric. This laboratory, or stomach, though often dealt with as if it were composed of wood or stone, is nothing more than a delicate bag, in shape like a pear, situated in a warm central part of the body, extremely convenient for favouring its own operations, and for procuring assistance from auxiliary powers around it.

The structure of the stomach is delicate. It is contractile, and studded on the inside with little glands which contain the fluid for dissolving the food. Aliment of improper quality, and in excess, will, by creating irritation, ultimately occasion these glands to become diseased, and then they will not separate from the blood, that fluid which is necessary for converting the food into nutriment. In the next place, the power of contraction in the stomach will be diminished, and as this is necessary for digestion, this important process will thus experience

another obstacle. The great art in conducting the diet of children is therefore to adapt the quantity of food to the powers which the stomach may have to act upon it, and to select such, as is most simple and easy of digestion. To err in these respects even only a little, is ultimately to create more mischief often than can ever be removed, though the effects may not be manifest for a considerable period. Until the stomach acquires strength and vigour from the general health and growth of the infant, we may be perfectly satisfied that it is improper to give an infant any food but breast milk. If there be an abundance of milk and the quality good, an infant will not require more nutritive aliment for six or eight months. Nature never designed any other kind of food for infants until they have teeth to masticate, and strength of stomach to digest it. When a child is capable of induring considerable exercise, then, and then alone is it capable of counteracting the ill effects of over-feeding. But for the exercise which many children take as soon as they can run alone, more extended mischief, than what is daily seen, would ensue from the quantity of aliment which it is the practice even of the well informed\* in the middle and the upper classes of society, as well as of the ignorant and poor, to administer, both whilst the infant hangs at the breast, and after it is taken from it. Exercise is the great antidote to such excess; and thus it is, that the children of the poor so often escape the consequences of over-feeding, while the children of the rich fall victims to it. The former, it is true, cannot be charged with excess in dainties, but a surplus of coarse and unwholesome aliment is not less deleterious to the infant economy of the poor, than an excess of better fare is to the constitutions of the children of the rich. Error in feeding children, unhappily accumulates upon error. Instead of

\* In every other respect but this.

diminishing the quantity of food when a child grows thin, the first thing which a parent generally does, is to add to it, under the mistaken idea that nutritive food in abundance is now required to restore the child who wastes away, to health, whereas it is the certain method to precipitate the little creature into the grave, though the object undoubtedly was to rescue it from it.

If the mother's milk is scanty, and a child strong and vigorous, it may sometimes be necessary to depart from the general rule, and to administer food, in kind, and in quantity, and at the intervals as directed in the Rules and Methods issued by the Institution.

Nor is it merely necessary, when a child is weaned, to proportion the quantity of food to the capability of the stomach to dispose of it; but caution is required to select the most suitable articles of food for its sustenance. It is by no means a matter of indifference, even with a healthy child, whether it is fed upon coarse aliment, or such as may promiscuously offer, or whether the diet be light and well regulated. Some physicians may contend for the ultimate advantage of such a plan of rearing children. We beg to dissent from it; because the instances of inconvenience and danger, arising from it, are too numerous and too fresh in our recollection to sanction it. Indigestion, flatulence, distension of the body, slow fever, gripes, purgings, and fits are among the consequences of such a practice. The best articles of diet for a child are veal, beef, mutton, or chicken broth, with good white bread well broken down in it, or previously reduced to a jelly by boiling in water. Rice, well boiled or baked, rice gruel, water gruel, vegetable jelly from biscuits (tops and bottoms) boiled in water and mixed with milk; boiled, baked and roasted apples; a turnip well boiled, with a small quantity of the white part of a loin of veal, or the wing of a chicken grated fine with a grater. No pears, plums, apricots, peaches, melons, or cherries,

should be seen in a nursery: a ripe orange, only now and then. Banish butter for ever from this place; children may be taught to dislike it: but instead of this, they are often supplied three times a day with rancid butter spread thick upon bread.

### *Weaning.*

If a child is in good health, it may be weaned about the ninth month; and, when once this process is commenced, it is material, for reasons which shall be shortly assigned, to set a firm resolution not to suffer the child again to go to the breast, merely to appease any temporary uneasiness. As soon as an infant begins to renounce the habits of its birth, and to contract other habits in their place, the body will acquire a new condition dependent upon this change—a state too from fretting, crying, from hunger and fatigue that will indirectly check the functions of the stomach, and impede digestion. Hence those vomitings, loosenesses, and fevers which so often occur when mothers, from an ill directed fondness, give their infants the breast again. A mere change of food will, in many instances, at first occasion some of these inconveniences. It will be prudent therefore to administer food in small quantities, and of the lightest quality, and not fly to the breast for relief, unless an imperative circumstance should render it advisable. This is rather a nice point to manage. The bowels are disordered. Resort to the nurse's milk again, and the looseness will increase with vomiting and fever. Give much food, or oftener than five times in twenty-four hours, and the same evil will attend. Irritation in short will be established, and will only be carried off by gentle aperients and alteratives,\* and by steadily persevering in the use of the biscuit jelly mixed with milk, as already

\* For the removal of these, recourse must be had to the Physician.

recommended. Should these prove effectual, and the infant go on well, it may, at the end of a fortnight or three weeks begin to take beef, or chicken broth once a day.

It seems proper to impress in this place that the stomach which has hitherto been accustomed to one kind of aliment only, of milk, for instance, will not immediately acquire the faculty of digesting other kind of food ; and this is a very strong reason for cautiously and insensibly changing a child's diet, and for proceeding first from the use of milk, to the biscuit jelly, to rice and water gruel, beef and chicken broth, bread puddings, and then to meat. Nor are these all the counsels which in this place should be offered. It is necessary to avoid mixing these aliments together, simple as they are, in a child's stomach. Beef tea, pudding, and milk, given near each other, will often occasion indigestion, gripes, vomiting, fever and looseness. To bear the stimulus from a mixture of aliments is a new habit for the stomach to adopt. It must be induced gradually to act upon aliment of different natures.

In the change from a liquid to a solid aliment—from the use of milk and broths, to that of puddings and meat, it has to accommodate itself to a new faculty, to the sensations arising from solid matter upon its delicate coats, and to acquire the method of acting upon it. To facilitate the acquirement of this habit, break down and mince very fine the meat intended to be given, and let the child have it without the admixture of any other kind of food, excepting a very small bit of bread previously softened and reduced to a pulp. It is right to bear in remembrance that the mere weight of solid food is sufficient to appease for a time the sensations of hunger, and that it contains more nutriment in proportion to its bulk than the watery aliment which a child may have heretofore

taken. This should be always kept in view to obviate excess.

Considering the difficulty which the most careful and judicious nurses frequently experience in establishing a salutary system of diet for children when they are first weaned, we trust that mothers will not think us too intrusive when we request the favour of them to superintend in person at the meals of their children, and at the preparation of their food. Some mistake or accident will inevitably occur if the mother herself declines to perform the rites of the weaning day. She cannot have a purer joy than to see her attentions and her cares so far rewarded as to have conducted her infant over the first epoch of its life. May she partake heartily of this happiness; may it be to her, not a day of trouble and of sorrow, but a day of rejoicing for the celebration of those delightful and endearing duties which have brought honour on her exertions, crowned her efforts with success, and which, whilst they reflect the highest credit on her sex, create an irresistible admiration in every tender heart, in an eminent degree entitling her to the affectionate gratitude of the partner of her bosom. Mothers! permit us to express a hope that the performance of this sacred task will ever be your foremost care, your highest delight!!

Never let your infant experience the misfortune of being separated from you. Under your own eye superintend the task of weaning. At most, quit the infant but for a few hours. Change the room, the place to which it has been accustomed, and then take it with you for a month into the country to enjoy the advantages of a good air with yourself. Neither will it be necessary for you to be concerned at seeing the infant who was plump and fat, now grow thin. When a child is taken from the breast, it always grows thin, but this, far from

being an unfavourable or unhealthy sign, is in fact a salutary change. It is the result of a material but a natural revolution in the system, occasioned by the introduction of more solid nutriment into it, and by the new and more vigorous actions to which this gives rise, far more powerful than the action of those watery particles with which the vessels of an infant whilst at the breast are distended, and by the subsequent condensation of such vessels, producing those natural and healthy changes which the infant economy at this period is always destined to experience. The only case in which a reduction of bulk in an infant is to be apprehended is when it evidently pines after the breast, suffers under some ailment which existed previous to its being weaned, and is actually a prey to irritation and fever, from confirmed disease. Should a child be separated from the breast in such a state of body as this, it soon becomes a mere skeleton, its extenuation advancing with an irremediable rapidity. It is true that among the poor, an infant may grow thin, after being weaned, from want of food—but, if it gets into this state among the rich, the cause is not want, but for the most part, excess of food. It must however be admitted that the reduction of bulk in an infant may have its source in a delicate and disordered state of the stomach, not very evident, at first, even to a professional man, much less to the parent. It requires a nice judgment to discriminate, in many cases, between a reduction of body which is the result of a change of diet, and that falling away, which is the consequence of latent irritation in the digestive organs. In the one case, there is no necessity for the slightest uneasiness: in the other, medical interposition becomes necessary. Such a state is not to be trifled with, nor combated with Godfrey's cordial, various anodines, or any quack medicine. If, by these remedies, the irritability be for a short time allayed,

the disease will not ultimately fail to strike deeper root, and the infant probably expire in a convulsion without any sufficient notice of a disease of this magnitude being at hand.

When a child has got over all the dangers of the first year, still it is a good maxim, until the large teeth are cut, to keep it on soft food, broken down and minced very fine: nay, it is advisable, to continue in this practice after that epoch, although it is presumed, that when the large teeth appear, the stomach is capable of performing this office for itself. In delicate children, however, this capability admits of numerous exceptions.

Mothers would do their children a great kindness, by obliging nurses to give them their food cool. Aliment eaten hot, annihilates the proper feeling of the mouth, throat, and gullet, and even affects the sensations of the stomach; besides which, the roots of the teeth are very apt to be injured by it. There is nothing superfluous, in here recommending mothers, to take steps to prevent nurses from giving children any thing to eat or drink between meals. Some nurses imagine, that every pain, want, or wish, a child may have, is to be cured by feeding: and, accordingly, they reserve in some secret corner, a supply for their little friends, to which access is had several times in the day. We do not find fault with occasionally giving a child a crust of bread, by way of a treat. It should be given as a favour, and not as a habit. In some families, it is the practice to give children half a glass of wine daily, after dinner, with a view of improving their digestion. Under particular circumstances, a small quantity of wine daily may probably be useful: but to many whose stomachs are weak, it is positively injurious, and to other children who are healthy, it is perfectly unnecessary. Another caution may be noticed here, and that is on the subject of water. A large and indiscriminate quantity of water relaxes the stomach, gives

children large bellies, makes them pale, and renders the flesh soft and flabby. It is better to err on the side of giving too little, than too much water.

## SECOND EPOCH.

About the second year of its age, a child undergoes a very material and sensible change in its constitution. It has acquired, by this time, a more settled and decided character. Its intellect begins to be developed. It understands, and attaches itself closely to its nurse or parents. The nervous and the muscular systems display their powers with vigour and regularity. Impressions are more durable. Whilst the child is thus acquiring a new and more extended state of being, it is of the utmost importance to its future mental and physical improvement to attend to its health. The period is also a trying one, in respect of the further progress of dentition. The eye and some of the double teeth now break out; and the latter, if the child be weak and delicate, never fail, independent of creating great pain, to produce a variety of tedious and distressing sensations, which terminate in dyspepsy, eruptions, fits, and sore eyes. This is another period of the child's life, when nice domestic management is imperatively necessary to avert disease: and when the influence of good and fine country air is highly beneficial, nay, probably of more consequence than at any subsequent age.

During this epoch, care ought to be taken as to the person with whom the child sleeps. A child in health, who sleeps with an old, or even a grown up person will frequently grow thin, and weak: but children will sleep together without encountering any kind of inconvenience. At this age therefore they should sleep alone, or with one another. The former is the best. As they can now run about, it is material to point out, in this place, the

impropriety of urging them to step fast, or run quick after those who have the care of them. Accidents, deformities and illness are the consequences. Many a child has been laid up with a fever from this careless practice. Many have been attacked with inflammation of the lungs. Neither is it a good plan to encourage young children to repeat verses and long stories with rapidity till they are wearied out. Parents will often require this of their children by way of recommending them to their friends: but it would be better not to force their ability either now, or indeed, we may add, at any other age.

Over care and anxiety to preserve the health of a child often defeats the object. It is common to meet with an ill-placed complaisance and kindness to children among the poor, as well as the rich—the latter in particular. Independent of striving to procure some relishing article of food as a change to please and flatter the appetite, they are in a continual and unnecessary alarm about their clothes—their looks—their temper. Either they are afraid of suffering their children to exercise themselves freely, lest they should grow too thin; or of going into the open air, lest they should feel too cool. At one time, they well cover them up with thick and heavy clothes, when it would be judicious to let them wear a light easy dress. At another they will shut them up in a warm nursery, and there keep them well wrapped up till their stomachs become so weakened that they are incapable of digesting the food, and they are under the influence of disordered bowels.

How much more likely is that plan to make them strong and hearty which directs the early use of every practice and exercise calculated to give power to the muscular, and digestive systems, cautiously commenced agreeably to the foregoing rules, and rigidly persevered in without any regard to the worse than use-

less scruples and anxieties of an over fond parent. No method is so well adapted to increase their present enjoyments—nor to diminish their future pains.

Parents will excuse us for again impressing on their minds that the nervous system of children is infinitely sooner moved and excited than that of a grown person. Subject as they are to convulsions from this cause, it is very dangerous to play with them at any of those games in which a loud and sudden noise is made, a shrill and sharp sound produced, as it is also hazardous to bring into their presence objects that may terrify them. Never tell a child who has even attained his fifth or sixth year a frightful story to disturb his rest; neither put him into a dark hole, or alone in a room regardless of his cries. Expect epilepsy, if you do, or a nervous debility, from which the child will never recover. Idiotism has also been produced by these cruel expedients. Neither are the tricks of servants, supposed to be harmless, upon children, without their serious consequences.

An important point to attend to, as a child grows up, is to take care that he has not those placed at first with him of whom he has a dread. Inspire him with affection and confidence. Let him feel himself happy and at liberty in your company. Seek his amusement; study his wants; teach him by gentleness and address to understand and feel your superiority. If he be treated with spite and ill-nature, if his desires be disregarded or roughly opposed, he will, under such influence and such conduct, grow peevish, ill-tempered, irritable and indocile—the child's mind and body will both suffer: and he will contract a feeling of fear and aversion, which will check his growth and ruin his health. Besides being low and sorrowful and bursting often into tears, a child will in this predicament infallibly digest his food ill, and implant in his constitution the rudiments of disease.

Mothers! nay, why not fathers also! what a responsi-

ble duty now devolves upon you ! Will you not seek and adopt a new course ? Will you not remove the impediments to your child's happiness by placing those about him whom he will love and respect ? Should one child by a blind predilection of his parents have lavished upon him the exclusive caresses of his father and mother, in the presence of his brothers and sisters, what a source of misery and sorrow is here opened to them !! Jealousy takes possession of the neglected heart, among children. From this cause will they pine and fret, almost without the suspicion of the cruel and unthinking parents. It is a fatal error to permit a difference to appear in affections. A sensible child may sink by it prematurely into the grave : a revengeful one ultimately seek the ruin of its unnatural parents. The harvest of a cultivated mind, and of an affectionate heart cannot be expected when it has been taught in its early days a lesson of hatred and cruelty. Parents, think upon this error, and obviate the reproach.

Having in a former page made some observations on the nervous system of children ; we shall here pursue the subject a little further, by considering the influence of impressions, from external objects, through the medium of the senses of sight, hearing, smell, taste, and touch, those sentinels that watch over our safety, and warn and secure us from the numerous dangers and accidents to which we are liable in our intercourse with the world from the first moment of our existence to its termination. Good and evil—self-preservation, pleasure and pain, are attributable to the senses—those ministers whom the Author of nature has appointed for our instruction and our wants.

It is no trifling object then for our future happiness, at this early age, to promote their complete and uniform developement so as ultimately to give them the highest degree of perfection, of which our nature is capable. In

children, as in grown up persons, it is necessary to use, but to guard against the abuse of each, and of all of them. It is our duty at every epoch to conform to this golden truth. If we do that there will be little occasion for further instruction. Gradually use children to exercise their senses to procure for themselves their wants, and not to satisfy their caprices. If habit permits an adult to over step this line, he never does it with impunity. Still more serious are the consequences of abuse in children. If a child be allowed to gaze upon a large fire, or the sun, the retina, a fine nervous expansion within the ball of the eye, may be paralyzed, and a loss of sight the consequence.

Many children have acquired the habit of squinting from being exposed to too strong a light in their beds. The light ought to be so regulated as to fall equally upon both eyes, and not to come in sideways upon them. Neither ought a lamp or candle be so placed as for the infant to direct its eyes sideways to it, nor ought any thing in fact to be put too near the eyes of the infant, as by this means it will not learn to see objects at a distance. In waking a child, let the precaution be taken not to expose it suddenly to a strong light, the sight may be much weakened by it. Neither is it prudent to take a child, or indeed a grown up person, all at once from a very dark to a very light place. Around the child's bed, an impenetrable curtain of darkness should be avoided, for many other reasons, as well as on account of the eyes. A curtain which will shade the child from the impression of a strong light is best adapted for all purposes.

It is a bad plan for school books to be printed in small characters. Those children who read by candle light, and sit up late at night are very apt to have their sight weakened; while drawing and painting during the

day tend rather to give exactness and perfection to the organ of sight.

In order to hear distinctly, it is necessary for the skin which covers the drum of the ear to be struck with a certain impulse by the inflections of the air. But in children hearing will often be destroyed by the sound of a cannon, or of a large bell, the noise resounding from beating copper, or from that of a hammer on an anvil. Damp houses and drafts of air will considerably impair this faculty, so will blows upon the side of the head, foreign bodies thrust into the ear, abscesses or affections of the bones in that cavity. To render this sense perfect, let a child in due time be taught music.

The sense of smell in children will inevitably be impaired, if not destroyed by suffering them to smell strong odours, as perfumes, and flowers. In like manner will the use of salt and spicy aliment, and the practice of eating food hot, vitiate and give a false taste to the palate. To give perfection to the sense of touch, particularly in the hands and fingers, children should be encouraged to pick up, feel and play with bodies of different shapes: but, they should be taught to do this indiscriminately with either hand.

In exercising children of four and five years of age, it is useful to teach them to extend their arms, and to throw open their chests, and to encourage such exertions as give a gentle but general shock to the whole body. To find out pastimes for them which enliven at the time they amuse, is a principal object. To promote gaiety and moderate laughter is of service; the circulation of the blood is thus supported—obstruction obviated—strength imparted. In their plays, children should be prevented from imitating the lame and deformed: but they should be allowed to be clamorous. To oblige them to sit still, and be quiet, when they ought to be running about and enjoying each others

vociferations, is injurious and to be condemned. Freedom of voice, like freedom of exercise, is as essential to girls, as to the future lords of the creation.

### THIRD EPOCH.

On the changes usually made with respect to clothing and bodily management when the child attains his fifth or sixth year, we shall next offer a few remarks. It is at this period that the boy puts on a coat and trowsers: but the exact time for him to adopt this dress cannot be very well defined. It must depend upon his strength and ability to wear clothes which will be tighter and more uneasy to him than a frock: and whether he is free from deformity in the legs from bad nursing when an infant. If he be a thin and delicate child, no alteration should be made in his dress before the sixth year; and then instead of wearing trowsers down to the feet, he should wear a short petticoat of nankeen, or jane, sewed to a cloth body, so as leave the legs exposed to the open air, and to permit of the free and uncontrolled use of the lower extremities.

Should the child's legs be crooked, this form of dress is still more necessary. Cold fresh air will brace the legs and knees. Warmth, occasioned by their being enveloped in stockings and trowsers, will inevitably increase the deformity. If he be, on the contrary, a hardy and robust boy, he may about the sixth year, be breeched, and wear a coat, or jacket. Except in the winter, the trowsers should be made of jane or nankeen, and socks would be better for him than stockings. A boy should always wear such clothes as his parents are not afraid of his destroying. The fear of being punished, should he soil them, may prevent a boy from playing about, and exercising himself in the way most conducive to his health and inclination. The whole dress should be per-

fectly easy. Let the binders be broad, and sit loose. Take care that there be no undue pressure from the buttons.

Few boys at the age of five or six will keep their hats on at play. During the heat however of the sun, and at night, a hat is far from being an unnecessary article of dress. Boys of this age should begin to endure hardships, and above all to bear cold. Their hair should be cut short, and their shoes should have flat and low heels. Their aliment may consist of mutton and beef broth with bread, rice, plain baked and boiled puddings, suet puddings, apple dumplings, and meat three or four times a week. It is not advisable for children to eat continually of the same food. The stomach delights in a diversity; and the powers of digestion are increased by a moderate indulgence of reasonable desires. In fact, the stomach does not day after day equally well digest the same kind of aliment. A change judiciously interposed is of consequence to the health of a child, who is in his sixth or seventh year of age. As a general plan, the one already described, is simple, but efficacious; and in departing from it, as the child grows up, an accurate knowledge of his constitution, taste, inclinations, habits, and powers of body, is requisite. Nor is it of little import to determine on the place of his abode, and the degree of exercise he should take. This is the age when controul is essential with respect to exercise, the use of liquids, and those desires which ought not to be complied with. If it be judicious to seasonably change a child's food, it would be a mark of weakness and inconsistency to vary it from his caprice, and of unkindness to pass by unheeded a reasonable antipathy to any sort of aliment. A child who takes a disgust to certain articles of food will not digest them, though a parent should insist upon his eating them. Antipathies ought always to be attended to, for the obvious reasons that illness, and an alteration

in the child's disposition may be the consequence. It is material to the health of boys and girls to regulate their bedding. In general, sheets and blankets are changed frequently, but not the bed. At all times, a mattress is preferable to a feather bed: but mattresses made of wool and cotton, like beds made of feather are apt to retain moisture and prove unwholesome to sleep upon. A hair mattress is the least exceptionable. A bed tick filled with rye straw, well dried and laid smooth will answer the purpose very well. Besides, it can often be renewed, and in this respect has the advantage over beds made with other materials. A bed-room ought to be cool, and the bedstead free from curtains, except in cold weather, and unless it is thereby intended to protect the child from drafts of air. A child ought never to sleep in the chamber of a sick person, or in a chamber where the air is close and confined.

It is important to the beauty of the teeth, particularly the new ones, to prohibit a child from cracking the kernels of fruit or nuts with them; neither ought they to use a pick-tooth, or play with any thing in their mouths that can prick the gums, or injure the enamel of the teeth. Direct a child to wash his mouth night and morning with a little water. It is hurtful to permit children to contract a habit of standing too near the fire even in cold weather. Cold invites naturally to sport and to exercise. The effect of heat is to render children delicate, heavy, lazy and relaxed. Besides, by being accustomed to warm rooms, and to stand over the fire, they will not fail to take coughs and fever when they go out. Cold invigorates the whole frame; and children sustain it remarkably well, if gradually habituated to it.

Nature has prepared, as Mr. Locke says, an excellent cordial for man, in sleep: and this observation holds doubly good with respect to children. The nearer the birth, the larger the proportion of sleep that is required.

Sleep recruits us all. In children six years of age, thirteen hours sleep in twenty-four, will not be too much, one hour of which should however be had in the middle of the day, the more especially if the child be delicate and the season of the year warm. Long sleep refreshes and does good to a child: although it weakens and enervates a grown up person. After the eighth year, an hour may be curtailed of the usual sleep, every year, till the individual is fourteen years old, and then eight or nine hours sleep will be sufficient, subject to some little variation under certain circumstances. Endeavour, when a child first rises, to set it forward on the day by giving it something agreeable. Study to please it, and to impart to it joy and gaiety. Should a child hurt itself at play, forbear from scolding it, as is so often and so unkindly done. Common prudence and humanity demand immediate attention. Fear of correction will frequently prevent children from acknowledging an accident. The greatest attention should be shewn upon such occasions. Accidents particularly claim the parent's affectionate care.

It is a bad practice to beat children. Independent of degrading them, it always tends to make them low minded, addicted to falsehood, slyness and vice, not to say any thing of the injury often done in the act. It is far more rational and efficacious, when punishment is necessary, to deprive them of those pleasures in which they take the greatest delight.

In a work of this kind it is an imperative duty strongly to impress on the minds of parents not themselves to undertake the medicinal management of their children. There is a wide difference between observing the preceding hints, and attempting the treatment of children in illness. Parents, in fact, cannot be too circumspect in regard to the administration of drugs. It is common for them to resort to strong aperient, and other active medicines for a headach, or a pain in the stomach, a

practice which is often improper and at other times unnecessary. The preservation of health is the parent's province—the removal of disease, the physician's—When experience speaks, listen to her voice. It is generally the language of truth—a flambeau that is required to conduct us over the rocks and shoals which disease puts in our way.

In rearing children, it is of the utmost importance to study well their dispositions. A timid child exposed to the threats and the passionate excesses of his parents will inevitably have his constitution injured. Should he be afraid of walking alone in the dark, go with him: till he is accustomed to it. Should he be afraid of animals, or dread the water, bring him by degrees to approach the former, and in due time, teach him to swim.

Few children like study. It is a thorny path, and must be strewed with flowers. Severity is the worst of all methods. It operates by checking the growth of the body, and never fails of rendering the child ill-tempered, and of casting a gloom over his mind. Urge a child to study against his inclinations, and his strength will decline. Necessary as it is to cultivate and form the mind, it should be our uniform endeavour so to combine recreation with study, that the periods for the latter should not always be at the revolution of stated hours, but incautiously determined by the ability of the child to direct his mind to a subject requiring thought and attention. As close study is more injurious to a child than an adult, it is important to vary the time, and the mode of imparting instruction, at least with children under seven years of age, in order to obviate disgust and illness, but it is not meant by this to leave children to pursue a capricious choice of occupation. If a proper discipline be maintained out of school hours, and a restraint imposed that is but slightly felt, it will be consistent with a uniform plan of education.

It will be but of little consequence whether a child be more dull and ignorant than another. A taste for study comes on with the developement of the intellectual organ: and this expansion of the faculties of the mind is not equally rapid and uniform in all. A change of system—of master to the parent—has often made a dull boy, bright. The same method will not succeed with every one. Teach a child to listen—to pay attention—to consider—to seek information—to exercise his mind; and you will make him wise and learned in good time.\*

\* “The animal economy which is subservient to the wants and operations of intellect, even in the remote parts communicating with it, is, according to universal experience, much subject to human management; it certainly therefore becomes the grand object of the teacher's endeavour, first to improve the animal organs or the intellectual medium preparatory to the infusion of ideas and knowledge. When scientific instruction and the improvement of the instrumental springs of thought move hand in hand, then will the acquisitions of mind be great and permanent; else that degree of genius which is natively possessed, will never be intentionally strengthened, but often receive positive injury.”

Where little philosophical sagacity is exerted, men readily discern the influence of animal health on the perceptive and rational powers. In rearing animals for use or pleasure, every transition from the earliest age to maturity is anxiously watched; and only unremitted cares insure in any degree to their owners their perceptive as well as bodily perfection.

Corporeal changes, which common to all experience are producible by art, few will call in question: but they may possibly doubt how far the mind is immediately influenced by such change or alteration. Objections to any cause well founded are rather to be met than avoided; easily refuted, they become relieving shades that make the light of truth more effulgent. They serve to shew that a good cause is uniformly the same and triumphantly ascendant in whatever light or position it is thrown. Such an objection to the sympathetic union of mind and body is this, that under the worst diseases when all hope is gone, the mind often preserves its

As the sovereign promoter of health and strength is exercise, well regulated, great stress is to be laid upon

wonted strength and firmness: when the vital principle is nearly extinct, and the soul still hovers around its perishing companion, the intellectual emanations of the dying man are often seen to rise higher than in a state of perfect health. Let it be considered how many mortal diseases there are in which the exterior organization at the close of life remains unimpaired! and much more a possibility exists that the interior sensorium is in the same intire state: the more remote it is from our actual observation the more perhaps it is guarded from the approach of contagion. Certainly at the fatal height of most diseases this part of the animal frame begins to suffer; nature wisely providing that reason on which the body so much depends for preservation, should in the hour of danger last of all relinquish her charge. But supposing that disorder first invaded the organs of sensation, while the mind itself was well and active; this circumstance does not invalidate the dependance of intellect on sensation; for it is possible that genius may still act and live on, as if no injury had taken place, by the notices before received through the organs of sensation in their perfect state. Exerted recollection and a better management of what is already stored may lead us to think erroneously that the mind has other ways and sources of intelligence than the corporeal medium. The deception is natural; for a man in this state abstracted from all his meaner habits, sublimely directs his whole intellectual force to one point, and displays a power of thought and almost prophetic truth much above his ordinary course of health. Few know their own possible strength till some dreadful emergency alarms them to a trial, or till they apply that strength determinately to one end. Few want ideas—most men entertain too many. That seducing variety which the external world offers, prevents a good choice or a steady contemplation of what is chosen. Shut up from this licentious range they examine well and judiciously expend their repositied store; and we may easily credit that when dissolution is even near at hand, enough of the interior sensorium may yet be free and equal to all the purposes of reflecting reason; and allowing for the efforts of despairing

it from the sixth to the twelfth year. All children are ardently fond of motion: and are never so happy as

energy and a collected mind, superiority at this time is no way surprising."

"Unprejudiced observers can have no doubt that the source of superior understanding is animal health. The many, long habituated to an institution that cultivates the understanding primarily and independently of the animal frame, will suspect this natural and obvious truth. Their utmost aim and hope of improving natural understanding will be by greater sedulity, or new modifications of the established school methods, that as far as their design and nature extend, are incapable of greater perfection. The present design is not therefore to dictate new ways of improving that, which in my view appears to educate for the end without the means; which rashly aspiring leaps aloft to the summit regardless of the mediate gradatory approaches. When such is the design and scope of education, all the varieties of method are considered comparatively as nothing; for all methods however different or well conducted but directed to a wrong object must be wrong in effect. A parent is free either to give his child a public or private education; his option is free either to teach grammar in his native tongue, or Greek before Latin, or Hebrew before either. Talents and assiduity may reconcile each fancied best to propriety, and make the choice indifferent."

That alone can be termed the education of man which has in design the improvement of his whole composite nature. The infusion of words and ideas, or the application of science to the intellect, is as far as we can observe injurious to the nerves of sensation and motion, that subminister to all its operations. No new power is gained; often much is lost. Inaction, confined air, constrained application, abrupt changes, and at that immature time of life when the constitution grows unalterably into the least wrong deflection, altogether tend to spoil or weaken those powers which are subservient to reason."

"Our modes of improving or assisting mind are quite opposite or very different from the usual means of restoring health to it. The

when they are actively employed. Exercise is at all ages an antidote to disease: but particularly during this

terms appropriate to the animal economy, as exercise, refining, enlarging, strengthening, and the like, are retained, but nothing of the actual care and process. Observe the cultivation of memory as in common practice. This intellectual organ is selected, because though out of the reach of sight, it is generally allowed to be some part of our material frame, from the common sympathy that is uniformly seen between them. Assiduous exercise is the method universally resorted to for the improvement of this organ, or faculty. We aim to improve and cure dull memories by repeated exercise with the same perseverance that Dr. Sangrado did his sick patients by repeated bleeding and dilution. However the patient sinks and the malady grows under the peculiar treatment, the failure is not imputed to the remedy, but to the insufficient dose of it. Mr. Locke whose thoughts on the discernment and conduct of young minds are invaluable, and who may well be supposed to have known the nature of the human mind as much as most men, strongly suggests that the method in grammar schools of improving memory is rather injurious than serviceable. "I hear it is said, that children should be employed in getting things by heart to exercise and improve their memories. I could wish this were said with as much authority of reason, as it is with forwardness of assurance, and this practice were established upon good observation more than old custom. For it is evident that strength of memory is owing to a good constitution and not to any habitual improvement got by exercise.

"The learning pages of Latin by heart no more fits the memory for retention of any thing else, than the graving of one sentence in lead makes it the more capable of retaining firmly any other characters. If such a sort of exercise of the memory were able to give it strength and improve our parts, players of all other people must needs have the best memories, and be the best company. But whether the scraps they have got into their head this way, makes them remember other things the better, or proportionably improves their parts, experience will shew."\*

\* Locke's *Thoughts concerning Education*, section 176.

epoch. Without it, the blood circulates slowly, digestion is languid, and the flesh flabby. Few children re-

In the above quotation Mr. Locke suggests that memory is the effect of good constitution. Though we cannot make a constitution, it is within our power to amend a bad and improve a good one.

"If we look upon memory as a part of our material frame, and design to improve it, like the other bodily organs by exercise; we should reflect that exercise acting upon the animal frame is only corroborative when all the other common rules of health are duly observed. Those probationary allusions to the strengthening effect of long exercise in any particular limb prove nothing in this instance. If, as in the exercise of memory, it was by a sheltered sedentary intention of strength and not by universal exertion of the whole body in the open air, that the rower rowed or the porter carried, such allusions would be justly applicable. But these mechanic employments are found to debilitate in a great degree the whole general frame, and not unfrequently those particular parts that come into action. It is possible and often happens that by long and reiterated exertion a greater afflux of blood and spirits is derived universally from the habit to those organs that are actively employed; they are enlarged at the expence of those parts which remain inert; but unless some judicious management counteracts the effects of excess and confinement, the very favoured parts distained beyond their natural pitch lose their tone. It is practically observed, that the exercise of memory may be overdone, and genius collectively injured thereby. Though many boast their prodigious feats of memory, how seldom do they durably retain their ideas, or judiciously compare and manage what they do retain!\* They exemplify in one way the proverbial truth, that great wits have short memories. Independently of deep and various abstraction of thought, it often happens, that by too great exertion the retentive organs are physically injured, then wit and memory are no longer fellows, though by no means incompatible

\* The ancients had no opinion of an art that would overload memory; and the answer of Simonides to one who was desirous to teach him that art is recorded by Cicero. "Oblivionis inquit malleim. Nam memini etiam quæ nolo, oblivisci non possum quæ volo." Cic. 2 fin. 104.

quire an inducement to play. The early periods of life should in a great measure be passed in dancing, playing,

in nature, or incongruous one to the other. For it is impossible for wit to be where memory does not or has not some time or other existed. This separate existence of wit without memory results from that latent power of contemplating old established ideas long after the power of receiving them is lost. Ideas are then fleetingly impressed; like characters written on the morning dew, they will not bear use; the first beams of thought chase them away, leaving no trace. Defective memory in men of great understanding is undoubtedly often apparent from various and profound meditation, but is not unfrequently real and produced by too great exertion. Their memories are destroyed by that laboured repetition, which in schools is of all things supposed to improve them."

"Memory of all the parts of the sensorium, seems the most necessary and instrumental to the operations of mind; and it being as much subject to our influence and management, as any other parts of the animal frame, that art by which change or improvement can be induced should be the first object of education. Memory alone has been instanced; but the same general treatment and constitutional care it is plain will have a proportionate effect upon all the organs of sensation, by which the mind has intercourse with external things."

"The observations that have been made on the culture of memory will equally apply to the other powers of the mind. We may truly say that the perfection of all the intellectual powers originates in universal health, and all besides in education is use and exercise, as different from improvement, if words have true meaning, as the wearing of a thing is from the making of it.

"Constitutional culture is seldom a part of scholastic education. Puerile amusement and graceful accomplishment, which, when well ordered certainly constitute the greater part of this culture, are relinquished to the capricious choice of boys themselves; they are suffered to chuse what is oftener injurious than salutary. The course of varied pleasure, undefined by any rule or care of their superiors, sought with avidity, and occupying every vacant hour,

and skipping about. These are of infinite service by expanding the chest. Throwing stones, playing cricket,

is too often the tenor of their education; and fashions their minds and persons more than scholastic study. To this spontaneous growth so powerful and so neglected, the vigilance of the improver should attend. The intellectual springs might then be urged to a high tone without risk. Preventive care would obviate all injury, and the mind on the one hand moderately strained, and on the other well fortified, would be in the state of receiving every possible improvement from the assistance of others."

"Youth for the most part is exempt from the disorders that afflict the other stages of life, and very few die between infancy and puberty. Temperance prevents disease; and continued accretions of fresh growth overcome slight disorder. Such is the happy disposition of circumstances at this period of life! but no artificial aid favours it. If animal health is not positively injured, it certainly is not raised. The mere preservation of health is not enough. Can a parent think the education effective that leaves the intellect to the mere spontaneous efforts of improvement? An elevation of all the organs above what they would arrive at in their natural growth to virility by their own inherent force is as much the province of an education, that looks beyond received opinion, as the infusion of science itself. The beginnings of education promise well. Infancy may be as auspicious to human improvement, as the stage of youth is positively detrimental."

"Where nature must be a deficient guide, as in the first approach to civil life, a school; there wild instinct is often suffered to take its course, to mock and elude the imposed fetters of scholastic discipline. With much superior caution we train and manage those animals subordinate to our use. The first change an animal undergoes from maternal nutrition to the care of man is entire, a strict separation, and appropriate in every view to its future destination. Labour, food, confinement, air, rest and exercise are all made subservient one to another; not only because one new particular might be incompatible with the other, but also that a complete altered management is absolutely necessary to break away the instinctive or mother habits. In our first steps from nature

hare and hounds, flying a kite, running races up hill, and on sandy and stony roads are good sports for boys.

we are bewildered in error and difficulty, except our whole action is cast thorough and anew, and all the parts designed properly subordinate to every deviation. On this principle the constraints of school, and injudicious relaxations allowed out of it, are as perversely wrong as the confessed errors of the anile nursery. There it was all art where it should have been all nature: here it is art defective, or spoiled by the admission of arbitrary gratification that can only be proper in a state of natural liberty."

"Preceptors have all assented to this one principle,—that discipline, and amusement should alternately succeed each other. Relax your authority; unbend their minds; have been the convenient precepts of all modern schools. They may relax their care, but the youthful mind will be fully occupied, and more earnestly busied in the career of voluntary play, than on any imposed task. During the remissions of school the mind is only transferred from one object to another: to remit or unbend any further, or to fix quiet that volatility, which is an essential quality of thought, is a thing impossible. To give that thought a purposed sway and direction, and not to dissolve it away in a voluptuous absence, should be the first aim of institutionary care. Uncontrolled play is now the next, and immediate step from studious application; but mere play cannot be the proper use of intermitted study; for then should we suffer and encourage in education, what will be the pupil's duty, as a man and member of society, to withstand with all the collected force of principle that he can recall to mind. Mere pleasure is not his proper use of vacation; for it coincides not, but is utterly at variance with the task he has just left, and must soon return to. It opens to his views gleams of natural liberty that as soon vanish, and make the after successions of restraint dark and cheerless. Recent sports still play to his truant heart, and he scarce looks even to the agreeable side of his proper employment. Remissions thus occupied defeat their own purpose: marked with excess, and improper choice, and left with regret, they prove ill remedies for the enervations of confinement. They break instead of invigorating constitutional health."

Insist upon their posture being upright when they are at study and at meals.

“Mr. Locke was so well sensible of this absurdity in school institutions that he entirely rejected the adverse acting principles and substituted entire freedom of will, so as to make even their business and their duty, pleasure; and their whole management of one congruous tenor. In all this we discern consistent relative design, consistent in itself, and as long as scholastic life continues, but no longer. Perhaps the best form of institution, is the exact but miniature draft of civil society.”

“Who can seriously defend a mode of discipline, now composed to the most rigid form and demeanour, and now decked out with every seducing bait to levity and estrangement? such is school contrasted as it is with lusive gratification! Who can respect the indulgence, the tender motives, that end in all the consequences of a rigorous severity? no sooner is the studied boy set at liberty, and he joys to run his length as if he were altogether free, than magisterial power draws him back to task and disappointment. Such is human kind, that no age confirmed by motives of reason and interest, will brook these hard extremes; and how can we expect that season of life when such motives operate very feebly, to be tempered to them by force or persuasion, with any certain durable effect! Through the whole creation beside, the youth of every kind are invariably free; love feathers their nest, and invites a sportive gaiety; all is serenely happy and healthful. When the parent care is supplied by man, they are still suffered to be happy; because the system of coercive management is one, and not crossed by things of various and repugnant intention. Human youth alone but too often experience a treatment sadly the reverse to all the indications of nature; and that art must be wrong which opposes the universal dictate. It is of that qualifying neutral spirit which mixes two contraries together, and so spoils both. Between nature and society there is no medium. If we condition free pleasure with constrained duty, it is impossible that one will be performed without aversion, or the other without excess pernicious to animal health.”

“Let amusements be changes or remissions from school business,

Ease is to be studied in dress up to the twelfth year, and after it. If fashion infringes upon this, she is a

but not from continued discipline. The same discipline should still be carried on, as much out of school as in school, by a course of exercises, active and emulative, sheltered and unsheltered, but subject to strict regulation as much as literary employment. All the difference between school and remission will be this; one is active, and the other sedentary: between this use of remission and the former; one was voluntary and the other is now imposed. Remissions of study, reduced to stated rule and subordination, will operate much in favour of the internal school discipline; habits of obedience will be deeply, because they are continually impressed. Study is a hard word, and chiefly irksome, because exercise is left to be self-directed. Let both be placed on a nearer level as to inducement, and they will both be more equally coveted."

"Study, like the business of man, will be a duty no longer irksome, if you restrain the great antidote play. Impose only the same controul on what is their constitutional bent, as you do now upon their natural aversion, and the option will approach at least nearer to indifference. The effect of continued employ is not without example."

"Continued employ, instead of breaking the youthful spirit, in all experience is seen to elevate and confirm it. All the manly propensities rise; a lively decided ardour, so favourable to the human frame, is the sure result of unremitted rule and order."

"The well disciplined boy, if he does not want health, will never want spirit."

"On the whole there is no objection, but there are many forcible reasons, that the now useless vacuity of employment should, by some monitorial care, be fashioned into a course of discipline and exercise, at once favourable to the internal business of school, and the animal principles of genius. Employment, and that employment under continued direction, is the great mark to be kept in view."

Those severe moralists who, in order to conquer strong propensities, would oppress nature by fasting, lassitude, or any other violent means; they defeat their own purposes, and always leave

tyrant, whose reign cannot be too soon terminated. In youth let the food be simple, but solid: and the appetite the barometer. If it rises very high, it must be checked; if the appetite fails, it is a certain indication that abstinence at least is necessary. Example is the great school for children, as respects both the mind and body. Nothing therefore should be done in their presence which can, if practised, too strongly affect the one, or give a wrong bias to the other. Now begins the age to endure hardships. The young person who renounces ease and effeminacy, and sustains fatigue and labour, lays up a treasure for old age. Firmness and resolution are powerful shields against the evils and the accidents of life. A young person should fortify himself against pain. He should bring himself to bear the sight

their work worse than they found it. To break human strength and spirit, to root out the noxious growth with the good, is certainly within their power: but thus weeded and refined, what will remain but characters, at best insignificantly harmless? Physical purity or apathy existing in perfect health is impossible. The noblest work of God is a man in full possession of all his specific qualities, and yet master of himself, still exercising that self-command over all his passions which the laws require. A system of employment that will unceasingly fix the mind to one object or other, which at the same time has no tendency to impair animal vigour, is the best auxiliary to moral precepts, and will produce that self-mastery which is in vain sought for by unnatural depression of strength and spirit. Among other employments, the pleasures of the field will have their place in moderate degree, enough to cheer and fortify, but not to overpower the animal functions."

The best rules of exercise, and all the means of preserving and increasing health are in general, well understood, but are chiefly applied to the restoration of lost health in manhood. The transition to the particular circumstances of youth is here made plain and easy. Where the spirit of a design is well conceived, private discretion will of itself best adapt it as various occasions may require."

of disgusting objects and scenes. Be it our study however to teach our children to have compassionate hearts—to implant in their breasts the love of doing good—to encourage this christian virtue for the pleasure which its exercise will afford themselves—from a noble manly impulse to relieve distress—not from mere good nature. Should we not admire a son for promptly and spontaneously assisting an object that wanted help, at whatever cost or care it might be? But should we experience in him the same delight, if he shrugged his shoulders, pitied that object and passed him by? In whatever way a child is led, let it be gently and by degrees. Invite, lead, bend nature: but do not force her. A shock will destroy, when a touch may be yielded to. Habit makes every thing easy, and effects an intimacy which lasts to the latest day of our existence.

May your child laugh? Yes, and cry too! so that he laughs at folly, and cries at another's pain, is all we are anxious about!

We now suppose him to have attained the age of twelve years, and therefore take our leave of him in full possession of a “mens sana, in corpore sano,” having collected from different authorities, and embodied in this essay the most useful instructions for that desirable end.

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*A Table of Diet adapted for the Infant Poor of Workhouses.*

For breakfast, throughout the year, for each child under four years of age, rather less than half a pint of milk poured hot upon four ounces of bread.

For each child four years old and upwards, (say in the proportion of a pint and a quarter between two), and four ounces of bread.

For supper, four ounces of bread with a tea-spoonful

of treacle spread over it, and a quarter of a pint of milk and water. Twice a week, for each child above five years of age, four ounces of bread with half an ounce of cheese for supper. To these also in summer may be allowed half a lettuce: but, instead of milk and water, plain water.

*Monday—Dinner.*

Half a pint of good broth from barley and the liquor in which a leg of mutton has been boiled, or soup from a shin of beef with three ounces of bread, for each child under four years of age: also, a slice of plain pudding, baked or boiled, say, two ounces. For each child above four years, three quarters of a pint of barley broth, or soup from beef, and a slice of pudding, one third larger.

*Tuesday—Dinner.*

Two ounces of boiled leg of mutton, three ounces of bread, and one potatoe well boiled, for each child above four years—Barley broth, or soup only, for each child under four years.

*Wednesday—Dinner.*

Soup for all the children prepared from the liquor in which a leg of mutton has been boiled, after adding to it neck or shin of beef, turnips and barley.

*Thursday—Dinner.*

A baked or boiled suet pudding for all the children. For each child under four years, six ounces of pudding; for each above four years, eight ounces.

*Friday—Dinner.*

Soup as before prepared with three ounces of bread for each child under four years. For each child four years and upwards, two ounces of boiled beef, three ounces of bread, and one potatoe.

*Saturday—Dinner.*

Baked rice puddings for all the children, given in the quantities of the suet pudding. Occasionally apple dumplings—and in summer a fruit pie.

*Sunday—Dinner.*

Boiled buttocks of beef, turnips and potatoes. For each child under four years, one ounce and a half of beef, three ounces of bread, and one small potatoe, well boiled. For each child four years old and upwards, two ounces of beef, four ounces of bread, half a turnip, or two small potatoes.

N.B. Water to be drank at dinner; and once a week, small beer, if fresh and good.

Should the liquor in which the buttocks of beef may be boiled, be used for making soup, it will first require dilution to correct the saltiness; after which, fresh beef must be added. Fresh beef bones boiled in this liquor with a small quantity of beef will make excellent soup for the children.

The liquor intended for this purpose must not be allowed to stand above twenty-four hours, especially in warm weather. All bread should be three days old before it is eaten.

From seven to ten years of age, children require for dinner, three ounces of meat, three times a week, with four ounces of bread, two potatoes, or, a small turnip: for supper, they require four ounces of bread and one ounce of cheese, and the beverage should be plain water: for breakfast, they should have four ounces of bread, and three quarters of a pint of milk.

From ten to twelve years of age, four ounces of meat will be necessary three times a week, for dinner.

After the twelfth year of age, the diet in respect of quality and description of food may be the same as for adults, but in the proportion of one-fourth less as to quantity.

## RULES & METHODS, &c.

AXIOM 1.---Proper Nursing tends to preserve the Human Species.

AXIOM 2.---The Mother's Breast is an Infant's Birthright, and Suckling a Sacred Duty, to neglect which is prejudicial to the Mother, and often fatal to her Child.

### INFANT STATE.

#### I.

USE a Child early to the Boat or Spoon——*in case of illness, or failure of milk from the breast in the mother.*

#### II.

Keep an Infant dry and warm——*to preserve health, promote growth, and obviate chafing.*

#### III.

Feed an Infant in an upright Posture——*to give uniform distension to the stomach, and thus to obviate indigestion and gripes.*

#### IV.

In the act of Suckling, it is proper to take a Child frequently from the Breast, for a minute or two——*to obviate too rapid a distension of the stomach, which occasions puking, or acidities.*

#### V.

Expose an Infant early to the Air——*to strengthen, and to enable it to withstand colds, and to obviate purging.*

#### VI.

Attend invariably to Cleanliness in an Infant——*to prevent diseases of the skin, slow fever, rickets, and decline.*

## VII.

Let an Infant's Dress be loose and easy, and free from Pins——*to avert accidents, glandular obstructions, and impediments to growth.*

## VIII.

Place an Infant, when asleep, on the right Side——*to favour the descent of the food into the bowels, and to obviate indigestion.*

## IX.

Attend strictly to plaintive cries——*by this means you may trace the first causes of illness; for a child will never cry, if well and at ease.*

## X.

Wash a strong Child in cold water, and dip it thrice a week—wash a weak one in warm water—to refresh it, promote healthy perspiration, and prevent diseases of the skin.

## XI.

Encourage a Child to stretch and thrust out its Limbs, and to crawl about——*to teach it active habits early, to strengthen it, and to promote the circulation.*

## XII.

Rub a young Child night and morning, all over with the hand——*this exercises it, and promotes the circulation of the blood.*

## XIII.

Comb a Child's head, and wash it frequently with soap and water——*to prevent scald head, and painful eruptions behind the ears, and on the neck.*

## XIV.

If a Child has cut four Teeth, if it is in good Health, and its Bowels are regular, wean it at nine Months, without any previous preparation——*do this to obviate numerous inconveniences both to the mother and child.*

## XV.

If a Child has been lately weaned, and is attacked with Hooping Cough, or any other severe Disease, it may require the Breast again——*it will be thus supplied with the diluting nutriment which it would then stand in need of:* or,

Should a weaned Child, to which is offered suitable Food, fall off in its Health, decline and pine away, it may be prudent to procure for it a good Breast of Milk, and to let the Child suck again——*to obviate an exhausting fever, which will inevitably prove fatal.*

N.B. This rule, however, must not be invariably adopted; and ought always first to have the Physician's sanction.

## XVI.

An Infant should have three or four Stools daily, of a bright orange Colour,——*a deviation from this appearance denotes acidities, and indigestion, requiring the prompt interference of the Physician.*

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 CHILDHOOD.

## XVII.

If a young Child takes but little Exercise give it but little solid Food, increasing it in proportion to the Exercise taken——*to obviate thirst, fever, head-achs, and glandular obstructions.*

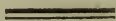
## XVIII.

Should a Child's breath smell, it is commonly a symptom of a disordered Stomach, or of Worms. Should its Belly grow large, its Complexion become pale, and Skin soft, Disease has already commenced.——*In either of these cases the child will require good and open air, and not only domestic but medical management.*

## XIX.

In a Fit.—Untie the clothes, raise the head, wipe away all froth from the mouth, and keep it open, pressing down the tongue, and drawing it forward at the same time. Let the child be *first* quickly exposed to cool fresh air, and its face sprinkled with cold water; *then*, gently rub, with a warm hand, the belly, back, and limbs; apply a succession of warm flannels to them, or resort to a warm bath, and put warm tiles under the arm pits; strike the soles of the feet smartly with a piece of flat wood, tickle the nostrils and inside of the ear with a feather or tooth-pick. To an infant, give five drops of hartshorn, in a little water; to a child two years old, ten drops in a little water.

N. B. Remember, though no signs of life appear, it is necessary for two hours to act up to these directions. *Caution.*—Do not suffer the head to hang back, or to lean forward upon the chest.



## CAUTIONS.

## I.

Never let an Infant sleep alone in cold Weather——  
*for fear of suspending the breath, and the circulation of the blood.*

## II.

Never let an Infant sleep the whole night on the Mother's arm——*for fear of suffocation.*

## III.

Never awaken an Infant out of a sound sleep, by rough means——*for fear of producing fits, or a purging.*

## IV.

Avoid the use of tight Bandages, especially round the Body—for fear of producing fits, obstructions in the bowels, or decline.

## V.

Avoid giving Godfrey's Cordial, Daffy's Elixir, or any other warm Anodyne—for fear of producing fits, fever, or palsy, a common consequence of quack medicines indiscreetly given.

## VI.

Avoid giving any Quack Medicine—for fear of bringing on decline, or sudden death.

## VII.

Avoid feeding Infants in the Night—for fear of bringing on the gripes, from over distension of the stomach.

## VIII.

Avoid warm Nurseries, and close Air—for fear of making a child delicate, weakly, and susceptible of cold.

## IX.

Avoid carrying a Child always on the same arm—for fear of making it crooked.

## X.

Never confine a Child's Limbs by wrapping its Clothes tight round it, especially at Night—by inaction of the muscles, and retention of moisture, the child will become weak and sickly.

## XI.

Avoid exposing an Infant to the open air, in a cold season, when its bowels are disordered, or if it has shortness of breathing, with fever and cough—for fear of bringing on high inflammation.

## XII.

Never allow a Child's food to be chewed——*it is not only a nasty practice, but if the nurse has a sore mouth, or sore gums, she may communicate disease.*

## XIII.

Never provoke violent Laughter, nor disregard violent Crying——*for fear of a fit in either case.*——(See how to treat a fit under the head of Rules.)

## XIV.

Never wash a Child with Milk, with a view to heal a chafed part——*milk will inflame, and cold water heal it.*

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FOOD AND FEEDING.

AXIOM.—*Ever keep in mind, that it is generally right to be sparing in the quantity of food; for over feeding, as well as feeding improperly, is highly injurious.*

A child in health will require only breast milk for four months; but, if weakly, and the mother's milk is small in quantity, it will stand in need of a small cup of beef tea daily. At the end of four months it should be fed twice a day, once with bread and milk diluted with water, or biscuit powder well boiled in water, and mixed with milk, and once with light broth\* and bread, arrow root, or rice. At eight or nine months it should be fed three times in twenty-four hours; and then more solid food should likewise be given daily, as a bread or rice pudding. For an infant taken early from the breast, the diet should principally consist of cows' milk mixed with

\* Four tops and bottoms, as made at Le Mann's, boiled for an hour and a half, in a quart of water, then strained off, and mixed with equal parts of milk, form an excellent article of food, and may be taken in twenty-four hours.

the jelly made from tops and bottoms, and of light broth with bread or rice. If the child has a purging, the milk should be boiled.

*After the first year*, animal food in substance may be given twice a week to children in health. To those, four or five years old, animal food may be allowed daily; and bread and milk, night and morning. Particular care is however necessary not to give nutriment in large quantities to children who take but little exercise, or to those who are weakly, for in such, an excess, or even a great variety of food is apt to produce worms, convulsions, rickets, slow fever, scrophula and purging.

*The acid change of food* is a common cause of disease in children. If a child at the breast be repeatedly attacked with the gripes and falls away, change the diet from milk to one consisting of broths, beef tea, and light puddings; and to aid in preventing a return of the gripes, exercise the child well in the open air. In this case, it will be proper, also, for the mother to live chiefly upon animal food. If this should not be effectual, apply for medical assistance. In general, the use of spices in children's food is to be reprobated: and in illness, the diet of all children should be as light as possible. In fever, drinks containing nourishment, such as barley water, toast and water, thin tapioca, and rice water will be proper, taken cold in summer, and warm in winter. In obstinate purgings, children must have rice, arrow root, and also hartshorn shavings boiled in beef tea, or beef tea thickened with baked flour, or sago and thick milk; and much good has been derived from putting a flannel roller round the body, when the purging resists these means.

### DRESS AND DRESSING.

AXIOM.—*Over clothing, and clothing improperly, make a child tender, and subject to cold.*

A child requires fewer clothes than a grown up person ; a short shift and a flannel waistcoat tied behind with a short petticoat sewed to it, and a short gown, rather stouter in winter than in summer, are all the body dress that a child requires ; more clothes only make it tender, chilly and subject to colds, unless it is weakly, and then a flannel shirt is sometimes useful. Until an infant reaches the seventh or eighth month, it is best without shoes or stockings ; neither can its petticoats be too short. The whole dress of children, whatever may be their age, should be perfectly loose and easy, so as to allow of free motion to the limbs. It is highly beneficial to expose the legs and arms of all children, and breasts also of *healthy* ones, to the open air.

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### EXERCISE AND SLEEP.

AXIOM.—*Never prevent a child from attempting to walk, however young it may be.*

When a child seeks to put its feet upon the ground, let it do so, but do not force it to walk. This effort at exercise is both pleasant and serviceable to a child ; it is proper to encourage it in this, and as it grows up, regularly to exercise, but to avoid fatiguing it. Amuse and employ a child, but never suffer it to be still when it is right for it to be in motion and actively employed. In exercising any child, however, avoid fatiguing it,

and particularly a sickly one; a weakly child ought not to be allowed to stand or walk long together; therefore it should be alternately carried in the arms, drawn in a vehicle, and invited to walk. The practice of placing children on the damp ground, after fatiguing them with long walks, cannot be too much reprobated.

Until the third year, most children require an hour's sleep in the middle of the day; after which, they should be invariably exercised till they begin to be tired, and may be put to rest at seven o'clock. In summer, let them rise at six, and in the winter at seven.

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### AIR.

AXIOM.—*It is indispensably requisite to bear without inconvenience the vicissitudes of the atmosphere.*

A free and continued exposure to the open air is of the utmost consequence to children's health; the sooner infants are taken into it, the faster they will thrive; in the air they grow up strong, less subject to colds, disordered bowels, convulsions and rickets; complaints so frequent among those children who are reared in nurseries. Not only the face, but the legs, thighs, and arms, should be freely exposed to the air. Even in confined streets in the populous districts of the metropolis, it is of infinite service to keep the children out of doors; and the poor should set open the bed room windows and doors of their habitations; those children who have been properly exposed to the air from birth, may be safely exercised in it, if *healthy*, in all seasons.

## COLD BATH AND BATHING.

AXIOM.—*Frequent bathing is conducive to cleanliness, it imparts vigour to the muscles and nerves, and promotes alacrity and cheerfulness of mind.*

In a striking manner does the cold bath preserve and promote the health of the infant race. It is proper to begin the practice of dipping in warm weather, and to continue it through every season after. The cold bath is not only a serviceable application to children in *health*, but to those that are *sickly* also, especially the ricketty; it may be resorted to thrice a week; a sudden dip, twice repeated each time of using the bath, will be sufficient. The more delicate and weakly, require the chill to be taken off the water the first and second time of going into it. If the shock of a cold bath appears too powerful for the constitution, partial bathing with salt water, or wiping the body with a sponge dipped in it, may be substituted, and is often highly useful. Sea bathing is preferred for those having the evil.

Immediately after bathing, let the child be wrapped in a blanket and well dried, and if it be disposed to sleep, allow it to do so; if not, it may be dressed and suffered to run about; weakly children using the cold bath may wear a flannel shirt. Altho' the warm bath is rarely employed except in disease, yet both the cold and the warm bath are remedies against eruptions on the skin, by washing off those saline and acrid particles which are left upon it by perspiration. Excoriations are effectually obviated by frequently washing the parts of the body subject to them with cold water.

FINIS.







